Dr. *LETTSOM*'s

ACCOUNT

OF THE LATE

John Fothergill, M.D.

DR. FERRISOM'S

ACCOUNT

OF THE LATE

Petersburg, M.

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SOME ACCOUNT OF THE LATE *John Fothergill*, M. D.

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, AND FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY, OF LONDON;

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN EDINBURGH;

AND CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY OF PARIS,

AND OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY AT PHILADELPHIA.

By JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM.

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M.DCC.LXXXIII.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

ADVERTISEMENT.

I HAVE been under the neceſſity of poſtponing the publication of Dr. FOTHERGILL's Works, ſome time longer than I firſt propoſed: difficulties have ariſen, which were not foreſeen; and they have occaſioned a delay, which could not be prevented. I have now, however, the ſatisfaction to obſerve, that the third and laſt volume is in ſuch a ſtate of forwardneſs, that, whatever incident might happen in my life, the completion of this Edition, as well as of the Quarto, need not be retarded thereby.

Nevertheleſs, as the Account of the Life of Dr. FOTHERGILL, which is to be prefixed to his Works, has been requeſted by many who admired his character, eſpecially thoſe abroad, to whom he was leſs perſonally known; I have publiſhed the ſame ſeparately, as more convenient for ſuch as do not wiſh to purchaſe the Works at large; the *Contents* of which are, however, ſubjoined. I have been further induced to

make this prior publication, in hopes of acquiring additional communications from his diſtant friends, and particularly in America, with whom his correſpondence was not leſs important than extenſive: and I am the more ardently encouraged to hope for ſuch communications, from the kind aſſiſtance I have already experienced of many reſpectable individuals; particularly, of *David Barclay*, of Youngſbury; Dr. *Cuming*, of Dorcheſter; *Joſeph Cockfield*, of Upton; *Thomas Collinſon*, of Southgate; Dr. *Dobſon*, and Dr. *Falconar*, of Bath; Dr. *Anthony Fothergill*, of London; *Benjamin Franklin*; Dr. *Johnſtone*, of Kidderminſter; *John Nichols*, Printer to the Society of Antiquaries; *John Payne*, Accomptant General of the Bank of England; *Thomas Pennant*, Eſq; Dr. *Percival*, of Mancheſter; *John Scott*, Eſq; of Amwell; *Henry Smeathman*, Author of the Hiſtory of the Termites; Dr. *Whitehead*, of London; and *Henry Zouch*, an eminent Clergyman and Juſtice of the Peace, of Sandal in Yorkſhire, and of the *Family* of the deceaſed.

JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM.

London, May 1, 1783.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Anno

1736. *DISSERTATIO Medica Inauguralis, de Emeticorum Uſu in variis Morbis tractandis.*

A Tranſlation of the preceding Diſſertation, on the Uſe of Emetics.

1751-4. On the Weather and Diſeaſes of London.

1736. Remarks on the Neutral Salts of Plants, and on the *Terra Foliata Tartari.*

1744. Extract of an Eſſay upon the Origin of Amber.

Obſervations on the *Manna Perſicum.*

1745. Obſervations on a CASE publiſhed in the laſt Volume of the *Medical Eſſays*, &c. "of recovering a Man dead in "Appearance, by diſtending the "Lungs with Air."

1745. *De Diaphragmate fiſſo, et mutatis quorundam Viſcerum Sedibus, in cadavere Puellæ decem Menſium obſervatis; Epiſtola Richardo Mead.*

1745. Tranſ-

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Anno

1745. Tranſlation of a Letter on a ruptured Diaphragm, and a Change in the Situation of ſome Viſcera, obſerved in the Body of a Female Child ten Months old; addreſſed to Sir Richard Mead.

1748. An Account of ſome Obſervations and Experiments made in Sibiria.

1748. An Account of the Putrid Sore-Throat.

1767. A Deſcription of the *Andrachne*, with its Botanical Characters.

1776. An Account of the Magnetical Machine contrived by the late Dr. Gowin Knight, F.R.S. and preſented to the Royal Society by Dr. Fothergill.

1756. Of the Uſe of the *Cortex Peruvianus* in Scrophulous Diſorders.

1756. A Letter to the Medical Society, concerning an Aſtringent Gum brought from Africa.

1757. Experiments on mixing Oils, Reſinous and Pinguious Subſtances, with Water, by Means of a Vegetable Mucilage: In a Letter from Mr. James Bogle French, to Dr. Fothergill. With Remarks by the Doctor.

1757. A Letter relative to the Cure of the Chin-cough.

1757. Obſervations on the Uſe of Hemlock.

1757. Remarks on the *Hydrocephalus internus*.

1768. Of the Cure of the Sciatica.

Of the Uſe of Tapping early in Dropſies.

A Hemi-

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Anno

1768. A Hemiplegia, attended with uncommon Circumſtances.

1768. On painful Conſtipation from indurated Fœces.

1768. Some Remarks on the Bills of Mortality in London; with an Account of a late Attempt to eſtabliſh an Annual Bill for this Nation.

1769. Remarks on the Uſe of Balſams in the Cure of Conſumptions.

1770. Remarks on the Cure of Conſumptions.

1775. Further Remarks on the Treatment of Conſumptions, &c.

1773. Some Account of the *Cortex Winteranus*, or *Magellanicus*, by Dr. Fothergill; with a Botanical Deſcription by Dr. Solander, and ſome Experiments by Dr. Morris.

1773. Of a painful Affection of the Face.

1773. An Account of the Tree producing the *Terra Japonica*.

1774. Of the Management proper at the Ceſſation of the *Menſes*.

1774. The Caſe of a *Hydrophobia*.
Additional Directions for the Treatment of Perſons bit by mad Animals.

1774. Caſe of an *Angina Pectoris*, with Remarks.

1774. Further Account of the *Angina Pectoris*.

1775. Obſer-

TABLE of CONTENTS.

Anno

1775. Obſervations on Diſorders to which Painters in Water-Colours are expoſed.

1774. Extracts from an Hiſtorical Account of Coffee, &c.

1769. Some Account of the late Peter Collinſon, F.R.S. &c. In a Letter to a Friend.

An Eſſay on the Character of the late Alexander Ruſſell, M.D. F.R.S.

1765. Conſiderations relative to the North American Colonies.

1779. A Letter to a Friend in the Country, relative to the intended School at Ackworth in Yorkſhire.

1780. An Engliſh Freeholder's Addreſs to his Countrymen.

1776. On the Employment of Convicts.

CORRESPONDENCE, containing Extracts of Letters from Dr. Fothergill, to
Dr. William Cuming, of Dorcheſter;
Dr. Matthew Dobſon, } of Bath;
Dr. William Falconar, }
Dr. Anthony Fothergill, late of Northampton, now of London;
Dr. Johnſtone, of Kidderminſter;
Dr. Thomas Percival, of Mancheſter;
Henry Smeathman, of London; with ſome Account of his Voyage to Africa.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Anno
1780. *Hortus Uptonenſis*; or, A Catalogue of the Hot and Green Houſe Plants in Dr. Fothergill's Garden at Upton, at the Time of his Deceaſe; arranged Alphabetically, with their Claſſes, Orders, Genera, and Species.

Hiſtory of the Diſeaſe which proved fatal to Dr. Fothergill.

Various inedited Medical Eſſays.

AND

Some Account of the late John Fothergill, M.D. &c.

PLATES,

PLATES.

PLATE I. HEAD of the late Dr. Fothergill.

II. *Arbutus Andrachne.*

III. Magnetical Machine.

IV. *Winterana Aromatica*, or *Cortex Winteranus.*

V. *Mimosa Japonica*, or Tree producing the *Terra Japonica.*

VI. *Coffea Arabica.*

VII. Head of the late Peter Collinson, F.R.S. &c.

VIII. Head of the late Dr. Russell, F.R.S.

IX. Elevation of Ackworth School.

X. Plans of Boxes for conveying Plants by Sea.

SOME

SOME ACCOUNT

OF THE LATE

JOHN FOTHERGILL, M.D. F.R.S. &c.

By JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM.

For my own part, when I recollect what I have loſt in him, the ſenſible, firm, and upright friend, the able, honeſt, and experienced phyſician, the pleaſing inſtructive companion of a ſocial hour, expreſſion fails me.

FOTHERGILL'S LIFE OF RUSSELL.

Amiſi enim, amiſi vitæ meæ Teſtem,
Rectorem, Magiſtrum.

PLIN. SEC.

SOME ACCOUNT

OF THE LATE

JOHN FOTHERGILL, M.D. F.R.S. &c.

Read before the MEDICAL SOCIETY of LONDON, July 17, and October 23, 1782.

THOUGH the admiration which an elevated character excites, may be diminiſhed by familiar intercourſe; yet that affection which virtue begets, and that reſpect which mental ſuperiority inſpires, are as permanent as the cauſes which produced them. You, Gentlemen, who ſo lately enjoyed the converſation of our late Preſident, will call to mind the dignity with which he conveyed eaſy communication that never tired, becauſe it always improved; and regret, with painful recollection, that our honoured aſſociate is no more!

But he that feels the loſs of a friend to whom he owed the obligation of uſeful inſtruction, or remembers the ſalutary aid that renewed the vigour of health, or that generoſity which averts the miſery of families and individuals, naturally wiſhes, and wiſhes with ardour, to revive in the page of hiſtory, thoſe virtues which were inceſſantly directed to the advantage and happineſs of mankind. In attempting before you this grateful taſk, whilſt I feel with concern how unequal my abilities are to my own wiſhes, or may be to your expectations, I truſt to your indulgence, where biographical relation muſt be ſo inadequate to the zeal of friendſhip.

JOHN FOTHERGILL, the father of the deceaſed phyſician of the ſame name, was born in Wenſleydale, in Yorkſhire, in the year 1676, and was a member of the religious ſociety now generally denominated Quakers. He reſided at Carr-End, the family eſtate of a preceding generation, where our late Preſident Dr. JOHN FOTHERGILL was born, on the eighth of March 1712: he was one of many children; though not

the

the only one, who in early life exhibited inſtances of genius and ſuperior underſtanding.

His mother was the daughter of Thomas Hough, a perſon of fortune, who reſided near Frodſham, in Cheſhire, from under whoſe care he was placed at ſchool in the ſame town, where he continued till his twelfth year, and was afterwards removed to Sedberg School, in Yorkſhire, then and ſince famous for claſſical literature and mathematics. That his progreſs here was conſiderable, I may ſafely aſſert, as the late Gilbert Thompſon, near Warrington, whoſe memory I have many motives to value, and whoſe learning and judgment no perſon who has been under his tuition can doubt, told me, that he was his ſchool-fellow, and in the ſame claſſes, but that he never was able to riſe above him, though conſtantly excited by emulation to obtain that ſuperiority.

About his ſixteenth year, when his ſchool education was finiſhed, he was placed with Benjamin Bartlett, an eminent apothecary at Bradford, in Yorkſhire; who before had been the tutor of Dr. Hillary, and ſince of

Dr. Chorley; and whoſe amiable manners and exemplary conduct had conferred upon him the character of a good man, whilſt his medical abilities and inſtructions had rendered his houſe the ſeminary of many diſtinguiſhed phyſicians.

The youth, who was deſtined at a future time to become one of the firſt phyſicians of the age, ſoon afforded ſuch inſtances of ſuperior ſagacity, as induced his intelligent maſter to permit him, at an early period, to viſit and preſcribe for his patients; and this he did with ſo much approbation, that his contemporaries in that neighbourhood have always ſpoken, in terms of reſpectful recollection, of his aſſiduity and practical ſucceſs.

When his apprenticeſhip expired, he removed to Edinburgh, to ſtudy phyſic in the colleges of medicine, prior to his ſettling in the country as an apothecary, in which capacity he was originally deſigned to act. At this time the profeſſorial chairs were filled with the Doctors Monro, Alſton, Rutherfoord, Sinclair, and Plummer, all of whom had iſſued from the Boerhaavian School, and whoſe eminent abilities their

pupil

pupil lived to commemorate, in his "Ac-" count of the Life of the late Dr. Ruſſell," at this early period his fellow ſtudent and intimate aſſociate.

The firſt of theſe profeſſors, that great anatomical oracle, Monro, attended to his numerous pupils with ſo much ſedulous care, as juſtly denominated him the Father of the College; and no man knew better how to diſcriminate the genius of his pupils. Dr. FOTHERGILL early caught his attention, in whom he diſcovered ſuch powers of mind, as promiſed the moſt fertile expanſion in maturity, and induced the venerable maſter to urge his pupil to enlarge their cultivation by a longer reſidence at the univerſity than was at firſt propoſed. He that is born with genius, and an inclination to attempt great things, is generally endowed with vigour of mind to perform them:

——*Poſſunt, quia poſſe videntur**. VIRG.

Great natural powers, however, are often combined with great diffidence, which was

* For they can conquer, who believe they can. DRYDEN.

certainly the ſituation of Dr. FOTHERGILL at this time, who has often told me, that his opinion of his own abilities was ſuch as reconciled his mind to move in a more ſubordinate ſphere. It may therefore be primarily attributed to the diſcernment of this eminent profeſſor, that his pupil was at once deſtined to occupy a higher ſtation, to redeem apparent victims of diſeaſe by his ſkill; and he ſurvived long enough to ſee that he had not made a falſe eſtimate of his genius, while his induſtry of application, and ardour after inſtruction, tended to confirm the profeſſor's ſagacity; for as he advanced in knowledge, he found daily excitements to further progreſs.

At this period ſome of the profeſſors delivered lectures in Latin, and others in Engliſh. Dr. FOTHERGILL adopted a method of improving upon both, which it may not be improper to mention here: it is what he has ſince recommended to me; and whoever follows his example, will be apt to recommend it to others; for much is due to him who firſt breaks the way to knowledge, and leaves only to his ſucceſſors the taſk of ſmoothing it. He took

notes

notes of the heads of each lecture, and on his return to his lodgings, he tranſlated thoſe into Latin which had been given in Engliſh, and then carefully conſulted and compared the opinions both of the ancients and moderns upon the ſubject of the lectures, with the lectures themſelves; after which he added ſuch remarks on each, as his reading and reflection furniſhed: by this means he gained a knowledge of the ancients, as well as the moderns; he enlarged his ideas, and acquired the early habit of examining opinions, and diſcriminating between thoſe merely ſpeculative, and thoſe which reſulted from fact and experiment;—in a word, he hereby neceſſarily acquired new powers of reflection, and an encreaſed energy of judgment *.

A mode, not diſſimilar, he followed in his ſtudies: when any medical caſe occurred worthy of remark, and there are few caſes but to a ſtudent of medicine are important, he examined various authorities upon the

* This relation I had from the Doctor himſelf; and ſince his deceaſe, I ſaw his Materia Medica Lectures, which were ſent to me by my ingenious friend J. Cockfield, of Upton.

ſame ſubject, and from theſe combined means drew a comparative reſult: what he had adopted with ſo much ſucceſs, he recommended many years afterwards, in an epiſtolary addreſs with which he condeſcended to favour me*, wherein he concludes with recommending the "careful "peruſal of Hippocrates, and alſo of "Aretæus and Celſus; one can never," he adds, "be too well acquainted with "the knowledge contained in the firſt, "nor with the elegant expreſſions of the "laſt."

Soon after he had finiſhed his ſtudies at Edinburgh, the celebrated profeſſor I have already mentioned, who was completing the fourth edition of his great work of Oſteology, which has ever ſince been deemed the moſt perfect performance in this branch of anatomy, and whoſe genius led him to enliven his ſubject with ample reflection, and various philoſophical and practical facts, apprized of the inquiſitive ſpirit of his pupil, not only condeſcended to aſk, but to adopt his opinions in ſome inſtances.

* Letter to the Editor.

It

It muſt have been highly grateful to the Father of the college, to ſee the rays which had iſſued from his mind, thus reflected with encreaſed emanation *.

We ſee not unfrequently ingenious youths, diverted by the ardour of imagination into irregularities, which length of time, and the ſtrength of mature reaſon, with difficulty correct; but in the preſent ſubject of biography, we ſearch in vain for the ſeaſon of youthful indulgence: as he adopted by his conduct, ſo he claimed an hereditary portion of his father's virtues, and has left us to judge of his youth, by numbering his years, rather than by recounting his purſuits †.

It

* The firſt edition of Monro's Oſteology was printed in the year 1726; a ſecond edition was given to the public in 1732, and a third about ſix years afterwards: it was the fourth edition, which appeared in 1746, that he referred to Dr. FOTHERGILL; and I am informed that he paid the ſame reſpectful compliment to Dr. Cuming, and gratefully acknowledged the aſſiſtance theſe intimate friends afforded him.

† Beſides his other uſeful engagements at Edinburgh, Dr. FOTHERGILL kept a diary of his actions, and of ſuch occurrences as happened to him, in claſſical Latin, as I have been informed by a gentleman who once had a glimpſe

It was in the year 1736 that he graduated at Edinburgh, and printed his Theſis "de "Emeticorum uſu;" ſoon after which he came to London, and attended the practice of St. Thomas's hoſpital. Here he was at once furniſhed with the moſt ample opportunities of examining the doctrines of the ſchools, by a ſeries of facts drawn from diſeaſe and diſſection; and I have heard it related by ſome of his contemporaries, that his application here was unremitting, and his remarks on the caſes were often liſtened to by his ſeniors. Objects of poverty have all thoſe feelings alive, that can rightly

a glimpſe of it, on the following occaſion: The Doctor requeſted his company in a viſit to one of the profeſſors, with whom he was more particularly acquainted; they breakfaſted with the profeſſor, who received them in an eaſy and gracious manner, as they went to *hear*, and left the choice of the converſation in a great meaſure to the profeſſor, who was chearful, in good ſpirits, and talkative; but the principal part of his converſation conſiſted of ſome lively entertaining adventures, that befel him while he was a ſtudent of London, Paris, and Leyden. The gentleman ſaw the inſertion of this viſit in the Doctor's diary, in which his account of the profeſſor's converſation was related in theſe few words, "*Multa dixit, non multa didicimus.*"

eſtimate

eſtimate the aſſiduity and the ſympathy of thoſe to whom they look up for ſuccour; they are equally jealous of apparent neglect, and grateful of ſeeming tenderneſs; and however unremitting the diligence of the Doctor might have been, his humanity to the poor was ſtill more conſpicuous to them: to be diligent was his intereſt, to be humane was the ſpontaneous effuſion of a good heart: this the patients ſaw and felt; and when he left the hoſpital, he ſoon experienced the pleaſing confirmation of their deciſion.

However dark ſome may repreſent the propenſities of mankind, ample knowledge of the poor has confirmed me in an opinion, that they are leſs inclinable to complain of injuries, than to acknowledge obligations: private injuries affect individuals, and mankind are more addicted to hearken to the relation of general good, than partial evil; and his humanity having become a ſubject of diſcuſſion to the miſerable tenants of a ſick ward, ſuch as were diſcharged, not quite reſtored to health, found the way to the houſe of this amiable phyſician. Comfort of mind is a powerful reſtorative

reſtorative to a weakened conſtitution, and he who divides our miſeries by his ſympathy, proportionally adds to our conſolation. Change of air, doubtleſs, contributes much to reſtore the fibre that has been debilitated by grief, penury, and ſickneſs; and the ſame gratitude which impels the mind to dwell on virtuous rather than on vicious actions, would determine the eye of gratitude to him, who laſt ſaw us emerge from miſery; to him is attributed all the merits of his predeceſſors, as the artiſt who caſts the metal is leſs valued than him who poliſhes its ſurface.

Ὁ ἀνθρωπος ἐυεργέτης πεφυκώς *.

ANTONIN. Lib. ix.

It is, however, certain, that the poor who applied to him for relief, were loud in proclaiming the ſucceſs of his practice, and gradually raiſed him to more lucrative employment. I mention this ſource of his early introduction, becauſe Dr. FOTHERGILL himſelf has often told me how much he was indebted to this claſs of grateful though pennyleſs ſupplicants; and in his

* Man is naturally beneficent.

turn

turn he acknowledged the obligation, by humanely continuing to give advice gratis to the poor, as long as he lived, long after their ſuffrages could tend to elevate his reputation: his perſevering benevolence could then alone be actuated by the innate goodneſs of his heart.

About this time, before he could have been eſtabliſhed in any degree of general practice in his profeſſion, he was ſollicited to accompany a few friends in an excurſion to the Continent; they were perſons of too many engagements at home, to admit of long reſidence in any one ſpot, and conſequently could not poſſibly acquire an extenſive or accurate knowledge of the places they viſited in the compaſs of this excurſive tour. I am perſuaded, however, that it was not fruitleſs; for long afterwards, when I was in company with the Doctor, a gentleman who was concerned in the conveyance of ſome merchandize through Germany, was deſirous of knowing the communications by land and water, the inland duties, and other particulars; to which he replied with a preciſion and detail, that evinced the inquiſitiveneſs of

the traveller, and the uſeful manner in which he had employed his moments. Of the parts traverſed in this excurſion, the Doctor, on his return, communicated an account to his friend Dr. Cuming of Dorcheſter, in a Latin letter *, which the latter entruſted to me; and theſe places are enumerated in ſo conciſe and claſſical a manner, that I have taken the liberty to adopt the language of the original on this occaſion:

" ‡ Luſtratis aliquibus *Flandriæ* urbi-
" bus munitiſſimis, per magnam *Brabantiæ*
" partem migravimus; relicto quippe *Gan-*
" *davio*, ad *Bruxellenſem* ſpatioſam ſplen-
" didamque urbem noſmetipſos contu-
" limus, per oppidulum olim valle et
" muro vel potius aggere munitum,
" nomine *Aſk*, (*Iſca*) notiſſimum quidem
" *Brabantiæ* incolis, quoniam exindè pri-
" mò

* Dated London, anno 1740.

‡ Having examined ſome well-fortified cities of Flanders, and travelled through great part of Brabant; leaving Ghent, we paſſed on to Bruſſells (a ſpacious ſplendid city), through a little town called Aſk, formerly fortified with a mote and wall, or rather a bank of earth: it is well known to the inhabitants of Brabant, becauſe

" mò Lupulos, horumque colendi modum
" mutuati ſunt *Angli*, in maximum totius
" *Brabantiæ* damnum; utpote olim in
" hoc mercaturæ genere ſatis celebris. A
" *Bruxellis* itur ad *Leodiam* hodie *Liege*
" Anglorum, *Luttich* Germanorum, inco-
" larum vero *Luich*, urbem ob arcis ob-
" ſidionem diuturnam ſatis celebrem,
" deinde ad oppidulum *Spadanum* et *Aquiſ-*
" *granum*, loca quidem toto orbe notiſſi-
" ma. Ibi aquas minerales, hic thermales
" potavi, guſtavi, aliqua inſtitutus ſum
" experimenta, ſed vulgaria quidem, ob
" defectum apparatûs ad hanc rem idonei.
" Trajectum ad *Moſam*, *Sylvam Ducis*
" (*Bois*

becauſe the Engliſh had their hops firſt from this place, and here learnt the method of cultivating them, to the great loſs of the whole country, which was formerly famous for this branch of commerce. From Bruſſells we went to Liege, called by the Germans Luttich, but by the inhabitants Lüich, a city celebrated for the long ſiege of its caſtle. From hence we paſſed on to the Spa and Aix la Chapelle, places known to every one. At the firſt of theſe I obſerved the mineral waters, and at the latter the hot ſprings: I drank of them, and made ſome experiments upon them, common ones indeed, for want of a proper apparatus. We next viſited

" (*Bois le Duc,*) *Dordrechtum,* iter ad
" celebre emporium *Rotterdamum* tenen-
" tes, viſitavimus; urbem *Delphenſem,*
" villam ſplendidiſſimam *Hagenſem,* ur-
" bem *Leydam, Haerlemam* pertranſivimus
" ad nobiliſſimam Batavorum civitatem
" *Amſtelodamum*; urbe deinde perluſ-
" tratâ, per fretum vulgo dictum *Dee*
" *Zuyder Zee* navigamus ad oppidum
" dictum a Batavis *Worcum* in *Weſtfriſia,*
" diſtans viginti præter propter milliaria
" a *Leuwardia,* nitidâ ſatis et bene mu-
" nitâ hujus provinciæ urbe primâ.

" Hinc tendimus ad *Groningam,* et demum
" per arenoſas incultaſque regiones, per
" que

Maeſtricht, Bois le Duc, Dordrecht, and continued our journey to that celebrated emporium Rotterdam. We paſſed through the city of Delft, the Hague, a very ſplendid village, the cities of Leyden and Haerlem, to the moſt noble of the Dutch cities Amſterdam. Having taken a view of it, we ſailed through the ſtrait commonly called Dee Zuyder Zee, to a town called by the Dutch Worcum, in Weſtfrieſland, diſtant about twenty miles from Leuwarden, the firſt city of this province, neat and pretty well fortified.

From this place we went to Groningen, and travelling through a ſandy, uncultivated country, we came to Oldenburgh,

" que urbem *Oldenburgum*, et villam unam
" alteramque longe a ſe invicem diſſitam
" accedimus ad liberam civitatem *Bremen-*
" *ſem*, celebre ſatis emporium atque dives:
" hìc in cella ſub templo maximo cathe-
" drali, corpora aliquot exſiccata, (humana
" intellige), dura firmaque, naturâ conſer-
" vata, peregrinantibus oſtenduntur, nullo
" condimento vel arte qualibet tractata, ſed
" merâ quæ cellæ inſit virtute conſerva-
" trice; eſt locus non admodum profundus,
" et ex uno latere vento perflabilis, ſicca
" eſt admodum, tota quippe circumcirca
" regio arenoſa eſt. Sed licet plurimæ
" aliæ ſunt ſub eodem templo hujuſmodi
" cavernæ,

Oldenburgh, and paſſing through ſeveral villages a good diſtance one from another, we came to Bremen, a free city, a great emporium, and wealthy: here they ſhew to travellers, in a cellar under the great cathedral church, ſome human bodies, dried, hard and firm, preſerved by nature, and the mere antiputreſcent quality of the cavern, without any preparation or aſſiſtance from art whatever. The place is not very deep, is expoſed to the wind on one ſide, and exceedingly dry, as the whole country round about is ſandy. But, although there are ſimilar caverns under the ſame church, and alſo under other neighbouring

" cavernæ, et etiam ſub aliis et vicinis
" templis, nulla adhuc invenitur quæ eâdem
" dote potitur. Corpora circa duode-
" cem habent integra, ex quibus unum
" ducentos circiter annos habet; alterum,
" centum et quinquaginta, reliqua, diverſa-
" rum ætatum et temporum; penitus ex
" ſucca videntur et levia, firma tamen adeo
" ut impoſitâ ſub capite manu totum cor-
" pus abſque minima flexura facile poſſis
" erigere. Magnam nitri copiam cauſam
" eſſe aſſerunt incolæ, quod in tanta
" quantitate erui poteſt, ut ſingulæ
" libræ terræ hujus cavernæ exhibent
" uncias duas nitri puriſſimi *."

churches, none has yet been found, that poſſeſſes the ſame virtue. There are twelve whole bodies compleat, one of which is about two hundred years old; another, one hundred and fifty; the reſt are of different ages: they ſeem perfectly dry and light; but ſo firm, that, placing the hand under the chin, one may eaſily raiſe up the whole body, without the leaſt flexure in any part. The inhabitants ſay, that the great quantity of nitre is the cauſe of theſe phænomena, which may be dug up in ſuch plenty, that every pound weight of the earth of this cavern contains two ounces of the pureſt nitre.

* Since more fully enlarged upon by Wraxall, in his Travels.

This

This epiſtle contains reflections equally pertinent and ingenious, on the manners of the people whom he viſited; and concludes with juſt and animated praiſes of mental liberty, and the moſt cordial profeſſions of friendſhip for his correſpondent.

After this excurſion on the Continent, he returned to London, and took up his reſidence in Gracechurch Street; we may therefore date the commencement of his practice in the year 1740, for though he graduated in 1736, the intermediate time was chiefly employed in attending the hoſpitals, and laying that foundation, upon which was afterwards to be raiſed a diſtinguiſhed ſuperſtructure. His Theſis, as it was never before the preſent time tranſlated into Engliſh, with all the merit it certainly poſſeſſes, could not excite the public attention, or acquire popular approbation, and conſequently could not materially contribute to extend his reputation: the ſame might be admitted reſpecting his "Remarks on the neutral Salts of Plants, and "on Terra Foliata Tartari," publiſhed in the ſame year in the Edinburgh Medical Eſ-

ſays, as ſubjects merely reſtricted to medical diſquiſition.

In 1744, his "Eſſay on the Origin of "Amber," and his "Obſervations on the "Manna Perſicum," were inſerted in the Philoſophical Tranſactions: and likewiſe, in 1745, his "Letter to Dr. Mead," and his "Obſervations on a Caſe of recovering "a Man dead in Appearance." In the ſubſequent year he was admitted a licentiate of the Royal College of Phyſicians.

Men of great talents do not always employ them on temporary or popular ſubjects; but on the other hand, their works, like the precious metals, are not injured by their antiquity: the preceding performances were rather ſolid than brilliant; calculated rather to enſure future reputation than preſent emolument, and will be read now with as much pleaſure as when they were firſt publiſhed. What he endeavoured to prove, to illuſtrate and enforce, reſpecting the recovery of drowned perſons, has been ſince attempted in moſt maritime ſtates of Europe; and he enjoyed the pleaſure of living to ſee thoſe rules adopted with ſucceſs

ceſs in this metropolis, by the ardour of Dr. Hawes and others, which upwards of thirty years before he had recommended by his pen. To whatever merit theſe Obſervations were juſtly entitled, the ſubject at that time excited no popular attention, though ſince proſecuted with a zeal that does honour to humanity; it could not, therefore, have contributed, in any conſiderable degree, to elevate his character; yet at this time he had acquired a large ſhare of employment in his profeſſion, and his emoluments were then ſuperior to what many phyſicians of long ſtanding at this time can boaſt. He was ever averſe from ſpeaking of the pecuniary emoluments of his profeſſion; and excepting what he intimated in the preſent inſtance, he never, to my recollection, mentioned the ſubject; and upon this occaſion it was collected from collateral circumſtances, and not from immediate information. Nothing hurt his feelings more, than eſtimating the profeſſion of phyſic by its lucrative advantages; the art of healing, he conſidered in that ſacred point of view, which connected it with a conſcientious principle of action. "My

" only wiſh," he declares, " was to do " what little buſineſs might fall to my " ſhare, as well as poſſible; and to baniſh " all thoughts of practiſing phyſic as a " money-getting trade, with the ſame ſoli- " citude, as I would the ſuggeſtions of " vice or intemperance *." And when the ſucceſs of his practice had raiſed him to the ſummit of reputation and emolument, he ſeemed actuated by the ſame ſentiment. " I endeavour," ſays this conſcientious phyſician, " to follow my buſineſs, becauſe " it is my duty, rather than my intereſt; " the laſt is inſeparable from a juſt diſ- " charge of duty, but I have ever wiſhed " to look at the profits in the laſt place, " and this wiſh has attended me ever ſince " my beginning †."

If this language is foreign to the man of the world, it is at leaſt worthy of a man of principle; and no phyſician will be worſe for its peruſal or imitation, nor of what he afterwards communicated upon the ſame ſubject. " I wiſhed at my firſt

* Letter to the Editor, dated Lea-hall, anno 1769.

† Ditto, dated anno 1770.

" ſetting

"ſetting out," he obſerves, "I wiſhed "moſt fervently, and I endeavour after it "ſtill, to do the buſineſs that occurred, "with all the diligence I could, as a "*preſent duty*, and endeavoured to repreſs "every riſing idea of its conſequences; "knowing moſt aſſuredly that there was a "hand, which could eaſily overthrow every "purſuit of this kind, and baffle every "attempt, either to acquire fame or wealth. "And with a great degree of gratitude, I "look back to the gracious ſecret pre-"ſerver, that kept my mind more atten-"tive to the diſcharge of my preſent "anxious care for thoſe I viſited, than "either to the profits or the credit reſult-"ing from it: and I am ſure, to be kept "under ſuch a circumſcribed unaſpiring "temper of mind, doing every thing with "diligence, humility, and as in the ſight of "the God of healing, frees the mind from "much unavailing diſtreſs, and conſe-"quential diſappointment*."

There are many incidental circumſtances which tend to introduce a phyſician into

* Letter to the Editor, dated Lea-hall, anno 1773.

practice,

practice, independent of any intrinſic merit, and religious profeſſion is not one of the leaſt: whoever acquires the foremoſt reputation with the leaders of a ſect, is by them naturally conſidered and proclaimed as the firſt of the medical profeſſion at large; but as there were two phyſicians of the ſame religious ſentiments with Dr. FOTHERGILL, previouſly ſettled in the metropolis, his early reputation could not be deduced from his religion; neither could family connexion operate in a ſtronger manner, becauſe the reſidence of his relations was principally in the north of England. Whatever reputation is acquired, unconnected with literature or medical ſkill, is precarious at all times: if patients are not cured; if ſucceſs does not follow practice; a ſpecious importance acquired or ſupported by partial or ſuperficial pretences, is ſeldom permanent. In concerns of ſuch magnitude, where health and life are at ſtake, partial attachments will vaniſh, and a conviction of ſuperior ſagacity and ſkill will at length predominate. Whether we conſider Dr. FOTHERGILL's early acquiſition of reputation, or its future accumulation, we cannot

cannot heſitate to aſcribe it to his ſuperior merit, or to that ſingular combination of vigorous powers of mind, and chaſte integrity of manners, which for a ſeries of years conciliated the affections, and claimed the unreſerved confidence, of the public.

Sunt verba et voces, quibus hunc lenire dolorem
Poſſis, et magnam morbi deponere partem. HOR*.

Highly flattering as his ſucceſs muſt have been, at this early period, it bore very little proportion to that blaze of character which ſucceeded his "Account of "the Sore Throat attended with Ulcers," publiſhed in 1748, and ſince deſervedly tranſlated into every European language. Not long before this time, the diſeaſe which he now elucidated, in its general havock in London, had ſwept away indiſcriminately, the hopes of ſome noble families, and particularly the two ſons of

* The pow'r of words, and ſoothing ſounds, appeaſe
The raging pain, and leſſen the diſeaſe.
FRANCIS.

the

the late Henry Pelham, brother to the late duke of Newcaſtle, and had hence excited very general alarm; the diſcovery therefore of a new and ſucceſsful treatment of ſo formidable and fatal a diſeaſe, was critically fortunate for the public, as well as for the author. Medical eſſays which promiſe improvements in the art of healing, are uſually offered to the public in a ſtate of imperfection, as long and repeated experiment is requiſite to mature the offspring of a luxuriant genius; but this performance was exempted from the imbecillity of a haſty birth, and the revolution it produced in the treatment of this diſeaſe, has obtained the ſanction of the ableſt phyſicians from that period to the preſent time, with leſs deviation perhaps than has attended the management of any other acute diſorder.

As the alarm among perſons of faſhion, long ſubſiſted, the Doctor's reputation rapidly increaſed. Whoever aſtoniſhes the public with new diſcoveries upon any popular diſeaſe, the reputation of ſagacity in every other, will be annexed. He was now introduced into the firſt families in the metropolis; and he was rarely ever employed,

ed, but in emergencies he was ſought for again.

But whoever deviates from a routine of practice familiarized by long habit, will encounter oppoſition; or if truth is too brilliant to be eluded, that oppoſition takes the form of envy, armed on all ſides with detraction; the diſcovery is anticipated by ſome previous deſcription, or vague ſuggeſtion, which at the time gained no influence, nor deſerved any attention. Such inſinuations have been urged againſt the merits of the preſent performance, upon ſuch a foundation indeed as does not deſerve the trouble of refutation. The very general and almoſt invariable attribution of the diſcovery to Dr. FOTHERGILL, by his contemporaries, weighs with me much more forcibly, than the ſlight ſuggeſtion, that a phyſician had previouſly found out the diſeaſe, its ſymptoms and its cure, in writers, which are themſelves obſcure. Nobody could doubt the ſagacity of Dr. Letherland; but beyond the obligation which Dr. FOTHERGILL has candidly acknowledged to him, I ſee no reaſon to detract from the merit of the latter, who uniformly,

uniformly, without reſerve, always ſpoke of it as his own production; and without the conſciouſneſs of deſert, no perſon that knew him, could be ignorant, that his modeſty and his integrity would equally revolt at any unworthy plagiariſm.

Had Dr. FOTHERGILL's Account of the Sore Throat been merely a publication of doctrines previouſly known and adopted, ſuch a plagiariſm muſt have been notorious to every medical man in the city; and the performance which announced a ſuppoſed diſcovery, would have met with general contempt, inſtead of that eclat which it conferred upon the writer, and which ſuddenly ſwelled the current of his buſineſs, and conſequently of his emolument: the firſt induced him to ſeek for ſome moments of retirement, and the laſt enabled him to effect it, as far as a phyſician in extenſive practice could command moments of leiſure. The natural bias of the mind is moſt apt to ſhew itſelf in a ſtate of independence, when unreſtrained by exterior concerns: in an active and multifarious genius, with which the Doctor was endowed, it would be difficult to aſcertain his warmeſt excite-

ments:

ments: individuals themſelves are not always the moſt competent judges of the cuique voluptas; actions conſtitute a more certain criterion, and by this ſtandard we may conclude, that he did not make a falſe eſtimate of his own propenſities; as long before he was able to command that leiſure which he never choſe to allow himſelf, he obſerved, that "chemiſtry and "natural hiſtory would be his entertain-"ments, were he wholly at leiſure; he "could not, however, loſe ſight of the "cui bono, in any reſearches: there is "ſtill room enough for diſcoveries; many "points that we believe, rather than "know; and ſome of theſe he could wiſh "to determine by experiments *."

In thoſe departments of ſcience, where fact alone depends upon the reſult of experiment, that leiſure, that ſedulous perſeverance is demanded, which is incompatible with the ſudden and unexpected avocations of a phyſician. In chemiſtry, where demonſtration has ſuperſeded vague

* Letter to Dr. Cuming, dated London, anno 1744.

hypotheſis,

hypotheſis, this ſtudious attention is particularly requiſite: however ſtrong therefore, the Doctor's propenſity to chemical reſearches might have been, the practice of medicine, and a judicious mode of preſcribing, were not calculated to amplify its boundaries: this department of ſcience was not then either ſo generally or ſo ſucceſsfully cultivated: Hales, and other philoſophers, had laid down a wide field for inveſtigation, and experiments have been ſince multiplied, more particularly relative to medicine, diet, and the animal œconomy. The *Air* which we breathe, as one homogeneous fluid, was now analyzed by new experiments in the North; but it was reſerved for a Prieſtley to develope the *Aerial Syſtem*, to embody ſhades inviſible to former ages, and place them in ſyſtematic light: but long before this period of aſtoniſhing elucidation of air, Dr. FOTHERGILL had ſuggeſted experiments upon this really heterogeneous fluid: ſo early as 1744, he communicated to his friend Dr. Cuming *, not only his doubts reſpecting the real contents of the air, but

* Letter dated London, anno 1744.

the

the proceſs of experiment he meant to inſtitute. How far he purſued a deſign ſo worthy of an ingenious mind, I am uncertain; but the ſtate of his health, which he afterwards introduces as an obſtacle to his purſuit, and the encreaſe of various avocations, probably terminated theſe enquiries. The method he propoſed to adopt, he thus deſcribes: "I have ordered ſome large glaſs "bells to be made, but of a more conical "figure, capable of holding ſeveral gal-"lons: theſe in warm weather will be placed "upon proper ſupports, the apex loweſt, "the broad open baſe above: the coldeſt "water will be poured into them, and "rendered ſtill colder by ſal ammoniac "and ſal communis; on the outſide, the "moiſture of the air will be condenſed in "large quantities, and afterwards ſubjected "to chemical analyſis."

Although a natural bias for experiment, does not now appear in many inſtances of his chemical inveſtigations, yet it obviouſly pervaded the whole compoſition of his preſcriptions. It is well known, that the mere exterior ſurface of bodies is no criterion of their component parts, when

analyzed by chemical proceſſes: the moſt ſimple and innocent articles uſed in diet, conſiſt of parts, which, developed and ſeparated, become highly corroſive; culinary ſalt, applied to ſo many uſeful and dietetic purpoſes, contains, as well as nitre and common ſulphur, an acid, which is deſtructive to the hardeſt ſubſtances: other combinations may be formed, of bodies inoffenſive and inert in their diſtinct ſtates, which on union, become noxious to animal life. Chemiſtry is hence abſolutely requiſite to form a phyſician, who muſt have daily reference to it in his practice: yet in this department of medicine, phyſicians are not unfrequently deficient; by which compoſitions have been recommended, and from thence combinations have reſulted, which the preſcriber neither propoſed nor ſuſpected. This was not the fate of Dr. FOTHERGILL; there was ſuch a well-directed ſelection in all his compoſitions, as happily united ſimplicity, elegance, and utility; and as the influence of his practice extended, his mode of preſcription was proportionally imitated in the metropolis, and at length ſo generally adopted, that I

may

may hazard the aſſertion, that he principally contributed to bring about a revolution, that ſubſtituted elegant ſimplicity in the place of multifarious and diſcordant compound.

Materia Medica is that department of medicine moſt immediately allied to natural hiſtory, and to which he had devoted no little attention; having collected a cabinet of materia medica, ſeldom, if ever, exceeded for its extent or ſelection. He had even encouraged the idea of delivering lectures upon this entertaining and uſeful branch of medicine; but an encreaſe of employment, joined with a diffidence of his own abilities, which none but himſelf entertained, diverted him from this intention; and his valuable collection was generouſly preſented to the college of Edinburgh, for the uſe of the public profeſſor of Materia Medica in that univerſity. The handmaid to this branch of medicine is Botany, a department of natural hiſtory, which affords the greateſt inſtruction and recreation with the leaſt exerciſe of the mind: it is, therefore, well adapted to the purſuit of a medical man, whoſe moments of ſecluſion

are rather ſnatched from time by watchful diligence, than enjoyed from actual leiſure.

As a rational means of unbending his mind, and affording at the ſame time collateral advancement in the healing art, botany acquired his patronage. On the Surrey ſide of the Thames he had noticed a ſpot of land, the ſituation of which ſheltered it from the ſeverity of the north wind, and in the ſoil of which vegetables grew luxuriantly; its vicinity was convenient, and its extent rendered its purchaſe eaſy, as the proprietor was inclined to ſell it: the price was ſtipulated, and one obſtacle alone remained to make it his own; it was let to a tenant at will, whoſe little family ſubſiſted on its produce, and whoſe miſery was inevitable, had he expelled him from this fruitful ſoil: the moment he was made acquainted with the circumſtances of the family, he refuſed the offer, adding, "that "that could never afford gratification to "him, which entailed miſery on another;" and when he relinquiſhed this projected Eden, he made the family a preſent of the intended purchaſe-money, as I was informed

formed by a relation of the tenant, and had it in part confirmed by the preſent proprietor.

Not far diſtant from this admired ſpot, he had afterwards a garden *, which he occaſionally viſited; but he never furniſhed it with that profuſion of exotics which he ſince collected from every quarter of the globe, and introduced into his garden at Upton, near Stratford. The whole eſtate was extenſive; the ſeat was formerly called Rooke-hall, from the name of the perſon who poſſeſſed it in 1566; and in 1666, it deſcended to Sir Robert Smyth, from whoſe family it was purchaſed, almoſt a century afterwards, by Admiral Elliot; and in Auguſt 1762 it became the property of Dr. FOTHERGILL †. The walls of the garden incloſed

* That learned phyſician and ingenious botaniſt Dr. William Watſon, informed me, that a beautiful Acacia, formerly planted by Dr. FOTHERGILL, and one of the laſt remains of his horticulture there, was ignorantly cut down about two years ago.

† In the year 1762, when Dr. FOTHERGILL purchaſed of Admiral Elliot his eſtate at Upton, it conſiſted of the houſe, garden, and lands adjoining, to the amount of about thirty acres.

There were at that time growing in a part of the

incloſed above five acres of land; a winding canal, in the figure of a creſcent, nearly formed

garden called the Wilderneſs, five large Virginia cedars, not leſs in diameter than ten inches one with another, and which were probably ſome of the firſt of the kind planted in England.

A year or two after, Dr. FOTHERGILL purchaſed of Peter Bigot, Eſq; a parcel of land, extending from the premiſes bought of Admiral Elliot to the Ilford road; and in the ſame year began the plantation along the ſaid road.

Not long after, viz. about the year 1764 or 5, he agreed with the proprietor of the large field called Lady Margaret's field, to the eaſt of this new purchaſe, to run a ſtraight line between their reſpective grounds; the old fence being no other than a broad ſandy bank, and extremely crooked. When this was ſettled, and the fence made, a plantation was begun on that ſide, principally conſiſting of oaks of a very uſeful kind, the acorns of which were brought from the mountainous parts of Portugal, and the timber is thought to be ſecond to none, in reſpect to durability.

Likewiſe ſome Spaniſh cheſnuts, raiſed from the nuts, in a plantation upon the premiſes.

In the garden there was a fine bay hedge; and in the Wilderneſs, one ſide of which is incloſed by this hedge, ſome very large laurels. Excepting theſe, a Larch, an Acacia, and the Virginia cedars above-mentioned, ſome large Abeiles, and the fruit-trees againſt the walls, there was not one foreign plant or ſhrub in the whole garden.

Whatever there is in the garden, or adjoining fields, of

formed it into two diviſions, and opened occaſionally on the ſight, through the branches of rare and exotic ſhrubs, that lined the walks on its banks. In the midſt of winter, when the earth was covered with ſnow, evergreens were clothed in full verdure: without expoſure to the open air, a glaſs door from the manſion-houſe gave entrance into a ſuite of hot and green-houſe apartments of nearly 260 feet extent, containing upwards of 3,400 diſtinct ſpecies of exotics, whoſe foliage wore a perpetual verdure, and formed a beautiful and ſtriking

of this kind, were planted by Dr. FOTHERGILL, ſoon after theſe grounds came into his poſſeſſion: which circumſtance is here mentioned for no other purpoſe, but that if this memorial ſhould be preſerved, it may be known to a ſucceeding generation, what progreſs the ſeveral ſhrubs and trees have made.

Some of the trees were not leſs than fifteen feet high when they were planted; eſpecially thoſe on the weſt ſide of the field adjoining to the garden.

The large trees, among which are many rare oaks, were brought out of the firſt great nurſery of North American trees in England at Fulham, belonging to —— Gray, an eminent gardener; and the firſt who, being aſſiſted by Peter Collinſon, Mark Cateſby, and other curious collectors, ſupplied England with the vegetable treaſures of America.

contraſt to the ſhrivelled natives of colder regions. In the open ground, with the returning ſummer, about 3,000 diſtinct ſpecies of plants and ſhrubs vied in verdure with the natives of Aſia and Africa. It was in this ſpot that a perpetual ſpring was realized; where the elegant proprietor ſometimes retired for a few hours, to contemplate the vegetable productions of the four quarters of the globe united within his domain; where the ſpheres ſeemed tranſpoſed, and the arctic circle to be joined to the equator *.

Et nunc omnis ager, nunc omnis parturit arbos,
Nunc frondent ſilvæ, nunc formoſſiſſimus annus.
VIRGIL.

But

* The preſident of the Royal Society, who has circumnavigated the globe, and is acquainted with moſt of the gardens in Europe, ſpeaks of Dr. FOTHERGILL's in the following manner.

" At an expence ſeldom undertaken by an indivi-
" dual, and with an ardour that was viſible in the
" whole of his conduct, he procured from all parts of
" the world a great number of the rareſt plants, and
" protected them in the ampleſt buildings which this
" or any other country has ſeen. He liberally propoſed
" rewards to thoſe, whoſe circumſtances and ſituations
" in life gave them opportunities of bringing hither
" plants

But in the midſt of this enchanting combination of nature, he never loſt ſight of the *cui bono*: "In theſe, as in every other "purſuit,

"plants which might be ornamental, and probably "uſeful to this country, or her colonies; and as libe-"rally paid theſe rewards to all that ſerved him. If "the troubles of war had permitted, we ſhould have "had the cortex Winteranus, &c. &c. introduced by "his means into this country; and alſo the bread-fruit, "mangaſteen, &c. into the Weſt Indies. For each of "theſe, and many others, he had fixed a proper pre-"mium. In conjunction with the Earl of Tankerville, "Dr. Pitcairn, and myſelf, he ſent over a perſon to "Africa, who is ſtill employed upon the coaſt of that "country, for the purpoſe of collecting plants and "ſpecimens.

"Thoſe whoſe gratitude for reſtored health prompted "them to do what was acceptable to their benefactor, "were always informed by him that preſents of rare "plants chiefly attracted his attention, and would be "more acceptable to him than the moſt generous fees. "How many unhappy men, enervated by the effects of "hot climates, where their connections had placed them, "found health on their return home at that cheap pur-"chaſe!

"What an infinite number of plants he obtained by "theſe means, the large collection of drawings he left "behind will amply teſtify; and that they were equal-"led by nothing but royal munificence, at this time "largely beſtowed upon the botanic gardens at Kew. "In my opinion, no other garden in Europe, royal,

"or

" purſuit, he had always in view the en-
" largement and elevation of his own heart;
" having formed early habitudes of reli-
" gious reference, from the diſplay of di-
" vine power and wiſdom in the beauty,
" the order, and the harmony of external
" things, to the glory of their Almighty
" Former.—From the influences of theſe
" habitudes, his mind was always preſerved
" in a diſengaged and independent ſtate,
" enjoying, but yet adoring *."

In the ſuperficial cultivation of many de-

" or of a ſubject, had nearly ſo many ſcarce and valu-
" able plants.

" That ſcience might not ſuffer a loſs, when a plant
" he had cultivated ſhould die, he liberally paid the
" beſt artiſt the country afforded to draw the new
" ones as they came to perfection; and ſo numerous
" were they at laſt, that he found it neceſſary to em-
" ploy more artiſts than one, in order to keep pace
" with their increaſe. His garden was known all over
" Europe, and foreigners of all ranks aſked, when they
" came hither, permiſſion to ſee it; of which Dr. So-
" lander and myſelf are ſufficient witneſſes, from the
" many applications that have been made through us
" for that permiſſion." Sir Joſeph Banks's Note in Dr. Thompſon's Memoirs of Dr. FOTHERGILL, p. 37.

* Dr. Hird's Affectionate Tribute to the memory of Dr. FOTHERGILL, p. 13.

partments of natural hiſtory, expence is often laviſhed without benefit either to the collector or to the public, where the object is rather to gratify curioſity than to augment and diffuſe knowledge: in the enjoyment of horticulture, the mind that was elevated to ſublime contemplation, could not be reſtrained by the partial motive of a mere collector; and he that in his purſuits enlarges his ſpeculation to the *cui bono*, will never want ample occaſions of promoting general good, in the ſtudy of vegetable nature, which teems with ſo many bleſſings to mankind: whoever conſiders the importance of clothing, of houſehold furniture, and of his daily bread, cannot but view it as one of the moſt uſeful, and conſequently one of the moſt rational purſuits of an enlightened underſtanding. Of this we ſhall be convinced, if we reflect what benefit would accrue to mankind, could another dietetic article like the common potatoe be diſcovered! How great a benefactor to his fellow-creatures would that man prove, who ſhould find out another grain like wheat, or pulſe like the common pea! or an article of clothing and manufacture ſuperior to

cotton

cotton or flax!—Such conſiderations influenced Dr. FOTHERGILL; and where he could not produce objects of equal importance, he exerted himſelf to accompliſh others of leſs, yet of great public utility. What he effected, and what he contributed to do, would fill a volume, were a grateful biographer to enlarge upon them: he pointed out what would ſuit different ſoils, and formed a balance in the productions of the globe: from America he received various ſpecies of catalpas, kalmias, magnolias, firs, oaks, maples, and other valuable productions, which became denizens of his domain, ſome of them capable of being applied to the moſt uſeful purpoſes of timber; and, in return, he tranſported green and bohea teas from his garden at Upton, to the ſouthern part of that great continent, now riſing into an independent empire: he endeavoured to improve the growth and quality of coffee in the Weſt India iſlands; the Bamboo cane (Arundo Bambos) calculated for various domeſtic uſes, he procured from China, and purpoſed to tranſplant it to our iſlands ſituated within the tropics. The laſt time I was

with

with him at Upton, I introduced Governor Nugent, who deſervedly poſſeſſed the chief adminiſtration of Tortola, to whom he expreſſed the pleaſure he ſhould experience in being the means of furniſhing the Caribbæan Archipelago with this uſeful Aſiatic; the very ſhoots of which were marked for this deſign. The elegant vegetable is now in my poſſeſſion; and I recollect with grateful pleaſure, as often as I ſee it, the wiſh of its former proprietor, hoping, when the tumult of war ſhall have ſubſided, to carry his deſign into execution *.

The Nutmeg-tree now flouriſhes in the Iſle of France, and Clove-trees have been tranſplanted from thence to Cayenne †. The true Cinnamon is a tree we have not hitherto been able to cultivate out of Aſia, though the Doctor uſed many endeavours to introduce it into our Weſt India colonies. The Canella cinnamomæa I had from his garden; and the

* Since I penned the above ſentence, I have been informed that the Bamboo cane has been tranſplanted to Jamaica, where it thrives luxurioufly, and has been already applied to many uſeful purpoſes.

† Dr. Juſſieu obligingly informed me, by letter, of the circumſtances reſpecting the nutmeg and clove trees.

true

true cinnamon-tree would have arrived here in health, had not the alarm of an enemy's ſhip induced my friend to throw it overboard, with other articles deſigned as a preſent: the war, however, may ultimately extend the cultivation of theſe exotics, which, like the inhabitants of a ſeraglio, are cautiouſly excluded from the eye of ſtrangers *.

Intent as he was to promote ſo many articles of commerce, manufacture, and convenience, he could not loſe ſight of thoſe departments of natural hiſtory, which were more immediately connected with medicine, in order to aſcertain the knowledge of what was already acquired, and to expand it by experiment where deficient. Though he was not the firſt who adminiſtered Hemlock internally, he was the firſt who accurately diſcriminated its vir-

* I am indebted to Dr. Vicq D'Azyr, and Dr. De Juſſieu, for information on this ſubject, that Cinnamon has been tranſplanted to the French Weſt India iſlands, and particularly to Guadaloupe, where it is greatly increaſed: (Le Cannelier, tranſplantè depuis long temps dans les iſles d'Amerique, et ſur-tout à la Guadaloupe, s'y eſt très multipliè.) It grows likewiſe in St. Vincent's.

tues;

tues: by him we were made acquainted with the Gummi rubrum aſtringens Gambienſe; and by his endeavours, and the ardour of minds ſimilar to his own, we know that Terra Japonica is a vegetable extract *; and to him and Dr. Ruſſell we are indebted for the flouriſhing of genuine Scammony † in our ſoil, as if indigenous to it. He attempted to procure the tree which affords the Peruvian bark ‡; and is

* Since Dr. FOTHERGILL's deceaſe, I have received ſeeds of the true mimoſa Japonica, or tree producing terra Japonica, and have diſtributed portions of them to ſeveral eminent botaniſts in different parts of Europe, as well as placed ſome in my hot-houſe at Grove-hill. They were ſent by Dr. Kerr, an ingenious phyſician reſident at Calcutta.

† Dr. FOTHERGILL obſerves, that with no ſmall trouble Dr. Ruſſell ſucceeded in procuring us the ſeeds of the true ſcammony. They were raiſed by my two botanical friends, the late Peter Collinſon, and the indefatigable James Gordon. Seeds were likewiſe ſent over to the ſouthern colonies of America, in hopes that in a ſimilar ſoil and latitude, in ſome future time we might from thence have this valuable drug unadulterated. LIFE of Dr. RUSSELL, p. 15.

‡ He likewiſe offered a premium of one hundred pounds each to two captains of ſhips, for a plant in vegetation of the true Winter's bark, (Winterana aromatica.)

ſaid

ſaid to have at length ſo far ſucceeded, as to have had one plant in his garden, but which I believe died with its poſſeſſor. This invaluable tree, which is ſo common in Peru and Chili, would doubtleſs thrive on the North American continent, and in the larger Weſt India iſlands; it is perhaps already indigenous to the mountains of Jamaica*; and by ſucceſſive endeavours it may hereafter be cultivated in the colonies of different European ſtates: we have ſeen in how ſhort a period of time the true Rhubarb (Rheum palmatum) has been naturalized to our ſoil, furniſhing us at home with ſo important an acquiſition to the Materia Medica. If we have not already cultivated it ſo ſucceſsfully as to rival the foreign, it is at leaſt nearly equal in medi-

* A friend of Dr. Clarke's, of Jamaica, (Alexander Roberts) has lately found a ſpecies of the Cinchona with racemoſe flowers, very ſimilar to thoſe of the Cinchona Carribæa of Jaquin and Linnæus, and to the Cinchona Jamaicenſis of Dr. Wright, deſcribed in the Philoſophical Tranſactions, vol. lxvii. p. 504. In the year 1781, a periodical publication, entitled the Jamaica Magazine, commenced; and in the third, fourth, and fifth numbers, the Jamaica Cinchona is particularly deſcribed.

cinal

cinal qualities; and future experiments may enable us to ſupply all our own conſumption. Much depends upon the nature of the ſoil, and much upon the manner of drying the root after it has been taken up: to promote its growth, and the improvement of its quality, Dr. FOTHERGILL carefully exerted himſelf; and his directions reſpecting the method of drying it, I ſhall give in his own words: "There is one circumſtance, relative to the drying of this "root, that I have long thought of, and if "not practiſed, would recommend to thoſe "who cultivate this article.

"The large holes which we commonly "meet with in the Turkey Rhubarb, are "not the effect of accident, but deſign: "they are abſolutely neceſſary; for, by "opening a paſſage for the air to the cen-"ter of theſe pieces, they not only dry "ſooner, but retain their colour, and per-"haps their medicinal virtues, the better.

"After having waſhed, and cut the root "into large pieces, let a large hole be "bored through the center with ſome in-"ſtrument that makes a large excavation. "Let a rope of well-dried ruſhes, or ſtraw,

" as large as the cavity will receive, be in-
" ſtantly drawn through it: this will pre-
" vent the drying root from contracting,
" whilſt the porous rope admits the air to
" paſs through, and carry off the central
" moiſture. Several pieces may be hung
" up together, taking care that they do
" not come into contact; and I ſhould
" think (though experience muſt deter-
" mine this) that it would be beſt to take
" up the roots, when the leaves early in
" autumn die away, rather than in the
" ſpring: they will be leſs ſucculent in
" autumn, but their pieces will be more
" active and efficacious *."

A man

* Letter to Dr. Falconar, of Bath. The public is, however, highly indebted to the amiable Dr. Hope, profeſſor of botany in the college of Edinburgh, for his introduction of Rhubarb into theſe kingdoms. See Philoſ. Tranſact. art. xxxii. vol. lv. ann. 1765. This diſtinguiſhed profeſſor informs me †, that he is of opinion, and his opinion on ſuch a ſubject no one will doubt, that the Rheum Palmatum is the ſame with the Ruſſian, which formerly was called the Turkey Rhubarb; and differs ſo much in its ſenſible qualities from the China Rhubarb, as to induce him to think with Sir Joſeph Banks that they are different ſpecies. The farina

† Letter to the Editor, dated Nov. 18, 1782.

of

A man of ſcience, confined by a local profeſſion, like the practice of phyſic, which occupies the moſt precious moments of time, may ſuggeſt more to others, than he can himſelf have an opportunity to effect; but, like the genial rays of the ſun, his influence may extend to the moſt remote regions of the globe: and thus it was

of one ſpecies, operates upon the ſeeds of another, and thereby produces high-bred plants, which hitherto have not produced fertile ſeeds in the botanic gardens in Scotland, where the experiment has been made.

"At firſt," obſerves the profeſſor, "depending on "the information received from books, we kept the "root ten or twelve years in the ground, and thought "that the longer we kept it ſo, the better quality "would the Rhubarb poſſeſs; but experience has taught "us, that the root ſhould not remain above four years "in the ground. The Rhubarb of this country is "equal in quality to the beſt Ruſſian. As there is now "ſcarcely a garden in Scotland without a Rhubarb plant "in it, the conſumption of the foreign Rhubarb is con-"ſiderably leſs, and annually a ſmall quantity is ſent "to London.

"The late Earl of Hopetoun made ſome intereſting "diſcoveries reſpecting its cultivation, and the late "Duke of Athol had very large plantations of it.

"Sir Alexander Dick early received a gold medal "from the Society of Arts in London, for producing "the largeſt quantity of well-dried rhubarb."

that Dr. FOTHERGILL promoted the inveſtigation of Nature, and excited enquiries after her curious productions, as far as navigation and commerce had diffuſed arts and ſciences. Men of more genius than fortune found in him a liberal patron; he contributed to ſupport them while they explored diſtant regions, and amply rewarded their diſcoveries. As he ſtudied moſt departments of natural hiſtory, as he patronized its ingenious cultivators, he neceſſarily became poſſeſſed of a valuable collection of its rare objects: next to the Ducheſs of Portland, he had the beſt cabinet of Shells in the kingdom*; his collection of Ores and Minerals, dug out of different parts of the earth, were diſtinguiſhed for their rarity rather than for their number. Of Reptiles

* The verſality of Dr. FOTHERGILL's genius was remarkable:—Few were acquainted with his accurate knowledge of Conchology, for he made no oſtentation of it, and yet Da Coſta is indebted to him for many important remarks in his ingenious Hiſtory of Shells, and for moſt of the notes with which it is enlarged and improved. The MS. notes, in Dr. FOTHERGILL's writing, were preſented to me by Da Coſta himſelf, with a modeſty which reflects additional credit upon this eminent naturaliſt.

and Animals, the gratitude of thoſe he had patronized furniſhed him with a curious variety: in the ſame manner he became poſſeſſed of an elegant cabinet of Inſects, which was greatly enlarged by the exertions of the ingenious Smeathman. His Corals, from whence Ellis, that indefatigable and microſcopical naturaliſt, delineated his ſyſtem, and created a new ſpecies of animal beings, was the foremoſt in Europe *. Thoſe objects of nature, which were too bulky to tranſport, or too periſhable to preſerve, he ordered to be delineated by the pencil of artiſts, that he might give bread to a ſet of ingenious men, whom he wiſhed to partake of his beneficence, whilſt he rationally gratified his own taſte, and enlarged the boundaries of the knowledge of nature: of ſuch elegant ſpecimens, whoſe value is difficult to eſtimate, he did not poſſeſs leſs than twelve hundred †; and his collection of Engliſh Heads, which included

* Theſe and other curious ſubjects of natural hiſtory were purchaſed by Dr. Hunter for £. 1,500.

† Theſe drawings were chiefly on vellum, by Ehret, Taylor, Harris, Miller, and Ann Lee, and were lately purchaſed for the Empreſs of Ruſſia for 2,300 pounds.

thoſe purchaſed of the late John Nickolls*, formed a treaſure in this particular department, which was perhaps inferior to none.

In the practice of Phyſic, it is as difficult to

* I am obliged to the ingenious antiquary John Nichols, of the ſame name, though no relation of the deceaſed, for the following communication, from his Anecdotes of Mr. Bowyer, not yet publiſhed. The tracts hinted at, are depoſited in the Meeting in Peter's Court.

"Mr. John Nickolls, F.R. and A. SS. a Quaker, in partnerſhip with his father of the ſame name, a capital mealman at Hertford, and of Trinity pariſh, near Queenhith, London. He was choſen F.A.S. Jan 17, 1740; and poſſeſſed the eſteem of a reſpectable number of friends, who were deprived of him by a fever, at the age of 34, Jan. 11, 1745. His remains were depoſited in the burial-ground at Bunhill Fields on the 16th. Mr. Nickolls publiſhed "Original Letters and Papers "of State, addreſſed to Oliver Cromwell, concerning "the affairs of Great Britain, from the year 1649 to "1658, found among the Political Collections of Mr. "John Milton; now firſt publiſhed from the Origi-"nals†; 1743," folio, inſcribed to Arthur Onſlow, Eſq.

† The originals of theſe Letters were long treaſured up by Milton; from whom they came into the poſſeſſion of Thomas Elwood, a perſon who for many years was well acquainted with, and eſteemed by Milton. From Elwood they came to Joſeph Wyeth, citizen and merchant of London; and from Wyeth's widow, they were obtained by Mr. Nickolls; after whoſe deceaſe they were preſented by his father to the Society of Antiquaries, as appears by their minutes.

He

to command leiſure, as it is to govern the voice of Fame; they both depend ſo much upon the opinion of the public, that the phyſician who expects to enjoy the former,

or

He was the firſt ‡ regular collector of Engliſh Heads §. His noble collection of about 2,000 Heads, four volumes in folio, and ſix in quarto, neatly let-in (which furniſhed Mr. Ames with his valuable catalogue), came ſoon after his death into the library of Dr. FOTHERGILL, who purchaſed it for eighty guineas. Dr. FOTHERGILL purchaſed likewiſe a pretty large collection of Tracts which Mr. Nickolls had picked up in his purſuit of Heads, written by thoſe of his own perſuaſion from their firſt appearance; which the benevolent poſſeſſor intends to leave to the Meeting to which he at preſent belongs, in Peter's Court, Weſtminſter. Beſides theſe collections, he had ſeveral views by great

‡ Anthony Wood, in his account of E. Aſhmole, tells us, "In his library I ſaw a large thick paper book near a yard long, "containing on every ſide of the leaf two, three, or more pictures "or faces of eminent perſons of England, and elſewhere, printed "from copper cuts, paſted on them, which Mr. Aſhmole had with "great curioſity collected; and I remember he has told me, that "his mind was ſo eager to obtain all faces, that when he could "not get a face by itſelf, he would buy the book, tear it out, "paſte it in his blank book, and write under it from whence he "had taken it." An admirable portrait this of our modern portrait-collectors, who have ſent back many a volume to the bookſeller's ſhop ſtript of its graven honours. A moſt noted Collector told a perſon at Cambridge, who now and then ſells a head, "That his own collection muſt needs be large and good, as it "reſted on ſix points: 1. I buy; 2. I borrow; 3. I beg; 4. I "exchange; 5. I ſteal; 6. I ſell."—Mr. Aſhmole's book was conſumed with the reſt of his library.

§ See the virulent cenſure of Mr. Rowe Mores on this ſpecies of collectors: Diſſertation on Engliſh Founders, p. 85.

or controul the latter, will meet with daily diſappointment: to acquire popular reputation, however, there muſt be ſucceſs, and when acquired, under the ſame circumſtances, it muſt be continually accumulating. Sickneſs, which is always unwelcome, is not reſtricted to ſtated times; and, in like manner, the leiſure of thoſe whoſe profeſſion it is to remove it, is uncertain; hence it was, that Dr. FOTHERGILL never could command that reſpite from employment, which was requiſite to the relief of a mind ſo inceſſantly exerted. It may be obſerved in general, that the future is purchaſed by the preſent: "It is not poſſible "to ſecure diſtant or permanent happineſs, "but by the forbearance of ſome immediate "gratification."

Ad quæ non veniunt præſentis gaudia vitæ,
Nec currunt pariter capta, et capienda voluptas *. PRUD.

maſters; ſome of which fell alſo into the hands of Dr. FOTHERGILL. The catalogue of his library, in his own hand-writing (including 332 volumes of tracts in folio, 4to. and 8vo.) is in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Tutet."

* For baffled mortals ſtill attempt in vain,
Preſent and future bliſs at once to gain.
F. LEWIS.

It

It is true, that a phyſician of independent fortune, determined to indulge in leiſure, may refuſe the ſolicitations of his patients; but if there be not a principle of honour, which impels him to the exerciſe of his art when requeſted, there is of humanity; and this ever was a ſufficient impulſe to the Doctor to ſacrifice his own gratification to the relief and happineſs of the ſick, and his health to that of his patients: this led him, as often as his friends requeſted him to contract his practice, to reply, "I can-"not deſert thoſe who have once placed "their lives in my hands; if I ſuffer, it "is in my duty."

But in the ſummer, there are much fewer reſidents in the metropolis, and in proportion ſtill leſs ſickneſs; prevented, therefore, as he was, by the mutual influence of his fame, and of his ſenſibility, from the enjoyment of any relaxation at Upton, (whither, if he went, meſſages frequently intercepted him) he choſe to retreat, for a few weeks, at this ſalubrious ſeaſon of the year, to Lea-Hall, in Cheſhire, a ſeat belonging to the Leiceſter family, about 18 miles from Warrington, where

two

two of his brothers reſided in the year 1765, when he firſt ſought this ſecluded ſpot. Two ſummers I ſpent with him here, and I never ſpent any with more advantage. Men who have ſedulouſly attended to the profits of trade, and who by induſtry and penury are enabled to retire on their fortunes, are more generally objects of compaſſion than of envy: if they live, it is to themſelves; for want of early and rational cultivation of the mind, they have acquired one ſolitary ſordid idea, and when they have placed themſelves out of the enjoyment of it, life becomes a burthen, and retirement painful. It was not ſo with Dr. FOTHERGILL; he had numerous important duties to diſcharge, which inceſſant occupation in town had obliged him to defer: here he attempted to leſſen the applications of the wealthy, who followed him for his advice, by refuſing any gratuity; they had it in their power to apply elſewhere: the poor he never relinquiſhed; and in this place of retreat he devoted one day in the week, to attend at Middlewich, the next market-town, and to give his advice gratis to them without heſitation; when

he

he ſometimes favoured me in being the Amanuenſis of what he dictated, and made me a witneſs of his philanthropy, as well as medical ſkill.

From his garden at Upton, he ſent duplicates of plants to Lea-hall, and there revived and extended Horticulture, where it had long lain dormant. Here he arranged his medical obſervations; for which his memory will be reſpected, as long as fact and rational experiment direct the profeſſors of the healing art. From hence he maintained a communication with moſt parts of the civilized world: Europeans, whom the ſpirit of commerce had prompted to viſit diſtant regions, conveyed to him, through various channels, the rare productions which occurred in the courſe of their travels. Few maritime perſons of this country but had experienced his ſalutary aſſiſtance; our trans-atlantic brethren in particular, both on the American continent and in the iſlands, had either immediately, or by their friends, been acquainted with his medical character; for in caſes that had proved rebellious to domeſtic aid, and which admitted of delay, no perſon was more fre-

quently conſulted: and though in his language there was a preciſion, with conciſeneſs, that contained much in few words, yet the multitude of applications with which he was ſurrounded admitted of no leiſure, for his leiſure was only the variation of uſeful employment. His domeſtic correſpondence, or conſultations within the kingdom, were alone ſufficiently extenſive for ordinary occupation; but great as theſe avocations might be, and great they certainly were, they bore but a ſmall proportion to the time and attention conſtantly devoted to the Society at large, of which he was a member, and which, though united in principle amongſt each other, admitted of contingencies that demanded attention, influence, and abilities; which few men combined in a more ample degree than Dr. FOTHERGILL did, or exerted them more ardently upon all intereſting occaſions: at the ſame time, he never neglected the tender offices of private friendſhip in the moſt enlarged and beneficent ſenſe. Among his familiar correſpondents, beſides his own relations, Dr. Percival of Manchester, Dr. Falconar of Bath, Dr. Dobſon of Leverpool,

Dr.

Dr. Haygarth of Cheſter, Dr. Aſh of Birmingham, Dr. Anthony Fothergill late of Northampton, Dr. Prieſtley, Henry Zouch of Sandal, Dr. Johnſtone of Kidderminſter, Profeſſor Hope of Edinburgh, the late Dr. Pemberton of Warrington, enjoyed an honourable place; and I may add, that I conſider it as one of the moſt pleaſing circumſtances of my life, that I have the privilege of introducing myſelf in this diſtinguiſhed group. But among all his contemporaries, Cuming, the learned Dr. Cuming of Dorcheſter, ſhared his moſt unreſtrained confidence: they had been colleagues at the college of Edinburgh, and intimate fellow-ſtudents, and parted with reluctance to occupy different ſtations in the kingdom; but their frequent communication by writing was interrupted only by death: their correſpondence was long maintained in eaſy and claſſical Latin, for which few were better qualified than theſe twin friends. The departed Ruſſell, the accurate author of the Hiſtory of Aleppo, was their early aſſociate, and continued the chain of friendſhip to the time of his deceaſe; it was then that Dr. FOTHERGILL, in the loſs of Ruſſell, wiſhed to have his ſurviving

aſſociate

aſſociate nearer his boſom, and urged Dr. Cuming to remove to the metropolis, to enter into that ſcene of buſineſs, and amplitude of emolument, which his abilities muſt ſoon have commanded. After the warmeſt invitation from Dr. FOTHERGILL, *his Cuming**, for with this tender expreſſion he addreſſed him, with a calm philoſophy, that knew how to eſtimate the *ſummum bonum* of life, diſintereſtedly condeſcends to enjoy the comparatively private but tranquil ſcenes of life, in preference to hurry and pecuniary advantages; a phyſician, who has been for a ſeries of years converſant with the complaints and diſtreſſes of thouſands of families, muſt neceſſarily have acquired many intimate ties.—And here I may particularly introduce a name, which, like

* I am much indebted to this learned and amiable phyſician, for numerous anecdotes of the ſubject of my biography; but with a modeſty characteriſtic of true greatneſs of mind, he has ſuggeſted his remarks with a diffidence, which I believe no one has leſs occaſion to plead: in one letter with which I was favoured, when ſpeaking of his deceaſed FOTHERGILL, he claſſically enjoins me "always keep in view that you are de-"ſcribing the magnitude, denſity, diſtance, and orbit "of a *primary planet*; and when *my* name is to be in-"troduced, let me appear only as an *attendant ſatellite*."

Dr.

Dr. FOTHERGILL's, had long been diſtinguiſhed for virtue and ample generoſity; David Barclay, a deſcendant of the great Apologiſt, was his boſom friend, to whom the Doctor entruſted his neareſt and deareſt concerns; and he could not have ſelected any perſon more worthy of his confidence and friendſhip *.

It would be difficult to trace his pen through all the various ſubjects of utility on which it was employed, during the time, which was about two months, that he appropriated to leiſure in his annual retreat into Cheſhire: he has to my knowledge wrote ſix hours † in the day ſucceſſively, and he ſeldom wrote but for private information or public inſtruction; even his journies into the country, and his returns to the city, preſented ſome ſtriking obſervations to his inquiſitive mind, that afforded improvement in agriculture, or uſeful reflections on life and manners. On his return from one of his lateſt excurſions to Lea-hall, by the way of Buxton, partly

* I am likewiſe particularly obliged to David Barclay for many very important communications reſpecting Dr. FOTHERGILL.

† Letter to the Editor, 14th September 1771.

on

on account of his ſiſter's health, his mind was here, as in every other ſituation of life, intent on promoting ſchemes of public good; he ſuggeſted the means of rendering theſe celebrated Waters more beneficial, by pointing out improvements in the uſe of them, with more eaſe and convenience to the patients *, and I believe they are now carrying into execution.

With North America his correſpondence was extenſive †; his name was dear to the

* Letter to the Editor, 4th October 1779.

† Among theſe may be enumerated the Britiſh Linnæus; Benjamin Franklin; Cadwallader Colden, formerly governor of New York; Dr. Chalmers, of Charles-town; the Pembertons, of Philadelphia; and the late Major John Pickering, of Tortola: and now I mention him, I may be indulged to ſhed a tear to his memory. He was in early life brought up to a mechanical employment, but by ſtrength of genius, and dint of ſelf-exertion, he acquired a competent knowledge of Engliſh, and an extenſive acquaintance with mathematics; by induſtry he became poſſeſſed of a large tract of uncultivated land, and by perſeverance he covered it with Canes and Cotton, and gradually roſe to be one of the wealthieſt planters in the Weſt Indies. He was about his fortieth year made governor of the iſland of Tortola, and held the rank of major in the inſular militia: at length he publicly profeſſed the religious

the inhabitants: his father had thrice traverſed that continent in the ſervice of religion;

ligious principles of the Quakers, and relinquiſhed all his civil and military honours and employments. He afterwards rarely attended the courts of judicature, unleſs he thought ſome poor perſon, ſome orphan or widow, was oppreſſed by ſome more powerful neighbour; when he voluntarily attended, and publicly pleaded the cauſe of the weak, if he deemed them oppreſſed; and his juſtice and weight were ſuch as generally preponderated.

I frequently accompanied him to his plantations; through which as he paſſed, his numerous negroes ſaluted him in a loud chorus or ſong, which they continued as long as he remained in ſight. I was alſo a melancholy witneſs of their attachment to him after his death: he expired ſuddenly, and when few of his friends were near him; I remember I had hold of his hand when this fatal period arrived; but he had ſcarcely expired his laſt breath, before it was known to his ſlaves, and inſtantly about 500 of them ſurrounded his houſe, and inſiſted upon ſeeing their maſter: with this they commenced a diſmal and mournful yell, which was communicated from one plantation to another, till the whole iſland was in agitation, and crowds of negroes were accumulating around us. Diſtreſſed as I was with the loſs of my relation and friend, I could not be inſenſible to the danger of a general inſurrection; or if they entered the houſe, which was conſtructed of wood, and mounted into his chamber, there was danger of its falling by their weight, and cruſhing us in its ruins. In this dilemma, I had reſolution enough to ſecure the

ligion; and his brother Samuel, whoſe memory I deeply reverence, had followed the pious example of their once venerable parent. Many families, from the fame of his medical ſkill, croſſed the Atlantic, to place themſelves under his care: by ſuch opportunities he gratified his inquiſitive mind, and acquired a minute acquaintance with the diſpoſition of the inhabitants, and the qualities of their ſoil, which enabled him to ſuggeſt various improvements in Horticulture, Rural Oeconomy, Agriculture, and Commerce. With his friend Peter Collinſon, he encouraged the cultivation of the Vine, with the introduction of ſuch exotic vegetables as might be uſefully tranſplanted to different regions of that extenſive continent: he

doors, and thereby prevent ſudden intruſion; after theſe precautions, I addreſſed them through a window, aſſuring them, that if they would enter the houſe in companies only of twelve at a time, they ſhould all be admitted to ſee their deceaſed maſter, and that the ſame lenient treatment of them ſhould ſtill be continued: to this they aſſented, and in a few hours quiet was reſtored; but it affected me to ſee with what ſilent, ſullen, fixed melancholy, they departed from the remains of this venerable man: he died in 1768, aged about 60 years. His only ſurviving ſon, an amiable young gentleman, reſides in England.

laboured,

laboured, with others, for a ſeries of years, and at length ſucceſsfully, to aboliſh the Slave-Trade among their own brethren: no man valued perſonal Liberty with more commendable enthuſiaſm, and few exerted their influence more ſtrenuouſly for it, in favour of the miſerable captives of Africa. On the North American continent, negro ſlavery will be gradually annihilated; but in the Weſt India iſlands, where there are few Europeans, and where the heat, which is intenſe, conduces to indolence, the traffic of rational beings is purſued with vigour, and will probably be continued till the pecuniary intereſts of Europeans can be diverted into another channel. To effect this, he ſuggeſted the cultivation of the Sugar-Cane upon the continent of Africa, where it ſeems to have been indigenous, and thrives luxuriantly; and that the natives ſhould be employed as ſervants for hire, and not as ſlaves compelled to labour by the dread of torture. Such a plan, indeed, was formerly ſuggeſted by one of the moſt powerful princes of Guinea. After the king of Dahomè had conquered the kingdom of Whidah, in the year 1727, he was

ſo bent upon the execution of his plan, as to ſend Bullfinch Lambe, his priſoner, whom he had loaded with favours, to the court of Great Britain, to engage its commerce and ſupport. Upon this occaſion, he preſented his ambaſſador with 80 ſlaves, and 320 ounces of gold, to bear his expences, and to induce him to return; but Lambe, after he had poſſeſſion of ſo much wealth, ſettled in Barbadoes, and never reached Europe, or further intereſted himſelf in the project of his generous benefactor. The richneſs of the ſoil, the plenty of proviſions, the convenience of carriage, and many other conſiderations, ſtrongly ſupport the opinion of cultivating the Cane on the African continent *.

A man

* On a ſubject ſo very intereſting, let it not be thought oſtentatious, if I take the liberty of communicating the ſentiments I could not avoid feeling in my own caſe, and the conduct which, as their natural and neceſſary conſequence, they no leſs irreſiſtibly produced. It is an inſtance given, not to ſupport a claim to peculiar merit, but merely to ſhew what every one, whoſe heart is not hardened by acts of oppreſſion, nor actuated by the love of money, muſt be diſpoſed to feel, and think, and act, in a ſimilar ſituation.

The repeated proofs of fidelity and love which I received

A man who could thus act with a principle of tenderneſs which realized the Roman precept, *Homo ſum, et nihil humani à me alienum puto*, could not be inſenſible to the near and ſocial endearments of friendſhip: a phyſician, in particular, whoſe time and powers are devoted to reſtoring health to his fellow-creatures, to removing grief and miſery, and ſubſtituting comfort and happineſs, muſt naturally have his mind humanized to the moſt tender ſenſibilities, and animated with thoſe joys which Nature annexes to the power of doing good: his

ceived from my own people, gave me at length ſo ſettled a confidence in their integrity, that, without the leaſt apprehenſion of danger, I have frequently found that I had left not only my liberty, but my life, entirely at their diſpoſal. The beneficence of power, and the gratitude of dependence, form an union of intereſts that never fails to heighten mutual regard: my own happineſs became at length ſo cloſely connected with the happineſs of my negroes, that I could no longer withhold from them the natural privilege of freedom, which Heaven had conferred upon me; I therefore delivered them from bondage, and thus reſtored them to the character of beings, into whom the Author of Nature, and Giver of all Good, has breathed the breath of life. See Benezet's Hiſtorical Account of Guinea, &c. Philadelphia, 1771. London, 1772. 12mo.

regard to his friends is expreſſed with officious and watchful care, and is returned with thoſe lenient endearments which conſtitute unaffected friendſhip, and thoſe felicities of life which remove or ſoften its pains.

"A phyſician," ſays Dr. Gregory, (who might be ſuppoſed to have drawn his picture from Dr. FOTHERGILL, had not his own afforded the ſame excellent model) "has numberleſs opportunities of giving that relief to diſtreſs, not to be purchaſed by the wealth of India. But beſides the good which a phyſician has it often in his power to do, in conſequence of ſkill in his profeſſion, there are many occaſions that call for his aſſiſtance as a man, as a man who feels for the misfortunes of his fellow-creatures. In this reſpect he has many opportunities of diſplaying patience, good-nature, generoſity, compaſſion, and all the gentle virtues that do honour to human nature."

"I come now to mention the moral qualities peculiarly required in the character of a phyſician. The chief of theſe is, humanity; that ſenſibility of heart,

which makes us feel for the diſtreſſes of our fellow-creatures, and which of conſequence incites us in the moſt powerful manner to relieve them. Sympathy produces an anxious attention to a thouſand little circumſtances that may tend to relieve the patient; an attention which money can never purchaſe: hence the inexpreſſible comfort of having a friend for a phyſician. Sympathy naturally engages the affection and confidence of a patient, which in many caſes are of the utmoſt conſequence to his recovery. If the phyſician poſſeſſes gentleneſs of manners, and a compaſſionate heart, and what Shakeſpeare ſo emphatically calls "*the milk of human kindneſs*," the patient feels his approach like that of a guardian angel miniſtering to his relief; while every viſit of a phyſician who is unfeeling, and rough in his manners, makes his heart ſink within him, as at the preſence of one who comes to pronounce his doom *."

It is an adage, that friendſhip exiſts only among the virtuous: if virtue confers a preſumptive claim to friendſhip, Dr. Fo-

* Lectures on the Duties and Qualifications of a Phyſician, pp. 8, 9; 19, 20.

THERGILL's title to it could not be controverted, and at this altar alone he lighted the ſacred paſſion. " Sovereign benevo-
" lence," he obſerved*, " is more widely
" extended than the particular attachment,
" however reciprocal, that we call friend-
" ſhip. That the beloved diſciple, that
" Lazarus, that others ſhared a peculiar re-
" gard from the Saviour of mankind, is evi-
" dent; but ſtill the principle was extended
" much farther, '*Ye are my friends, if ye*
" *do the will of him that ſent me.*' This
" was the friendſhip, it is moſt evident, that
" the Goſpel recommended—Loving the
" Great Creator above all things, our fel-
" low-creatures for his ſake, and, in pecu-
" liar ſituations, individuals for his and
" their own.—The friendſhips of Tully
" are beneath this kind of friendſhip;
" they did honour to human nature, and
" to its Author in a certain degree: a
" wider ſphere was unknown to them, and
" as the attachments they formed were on
" the beſt foundations they knew, more
" was not to be expected. The Goſpel
" amities are unlimited, they flow to all,

* Letter to Dr. Percival.

" in

" in proportion to that dilated benevolence
" which the Goſpel only divulges. It ſtates,
" that we are friends to one another, friends
" to the great Author of our deareſt know-
" ledge, in proportion as our lives are de-
" voted to that great Will which conſti-
" tutes the nobleſt part of the Chriſtian
" character."

A mind actuated by theſe ſentiments of amity, could not be deficient in actions of beneficence. Introduced by his profeſſion into ſcenes which equally excite ſympathy, and demand ſuccour, he was ever acceſſible to diſtreſs. To the inferior clergy Dr. Hird gives the following examples of his generous philanthropy, whom he conſidered as more particularly the objects of his liberality and attention: " Being brought up in that line of education, which, in the opinion of the world, precludes bodily labour, and to which the idea of the gentleman is annexed, without a competency to ſupport the character; to many of theſe I am an evidence he was a kind friend and a private benefactor; not only by his advice in perſonal diſtreſs, but by his purſe on ſeverely trying occaſions.—Nay, ſo cordial

was

was his humanity towards theſe, that, on a friend's hinting to him, whilſt he was in the country, that his favours were not marked by propriety of diſtinction (the gentleman from whom he had refuſed his fee being placed in high rank in the church, with an independent fortune) he returned a ready explanation of his principle of action: "I had rather," ſaid the Doctor, "return "the fee of a gentleman with whoſe rank "I am not perfectly acquainted, than run "the riſk of taking it from a man who "ought perhaps to be the object of my "bounty." Such was the noble ſtyle of this moſt excellent man's way of thinking."

"The humane reader will feel the fineſt ſprings of his affections moved by the following anecdotes, given me by a clergyman of high rank, who reveres the memory of Dr. FOTHERGILL, and places his obligations to him, in a very trying ſeaſon, near to his heart. A friend of his, a man of a worthy character, who has at this time an income of about one hundred pounds a year, church preferment, was, in the early part of his life, ſeated in London upon a curacy of fifty pounds per annum, with a wife and a nume-

a numerous family.—An epidemical diſeaſe, which was at that time prevalent, ſeized upon his wife, and five of his children: in this ſcene of diſtreſs his heart was inſtantly turned to the Doctor, but dared not apply for his aſſiſtance, from a conſciouſneſs of his being unable to reward him for his attendance. A friend, who knew his ſituation, kindly offered to accompany him to the Doctor's, and give him his fee; they took advantage of his hour of audience, and after a deſcription of the ſeveral caſes, the fee was offered, and refuſed; but a note was taken of his place of reſidence. The Doctor called aſſiduouſly the next, and every ſucceeding day, till his attendance was no longer neceſſary. The curate, anxious to return ſome grateful mark of the ſenſe he entertained of his ſervices, ſtrained every nerve to accompliſh it; but his aſtoniſhment was not to be deſcribed, when, inſtead of receiving the money he offered, with apologies for his ſituation, the Doctor put ten guineas into his hand, deſiring him to apply to him without diffidence in future difficulties."

"Although, amidſt the diffuſion of his favours,

favours, he too frequently met with ungrateful returns, yet he could never allow inſtances of this ſort to check the ardour of his mind in doing all the good he could to others; and even to thoſe who returned ingratitude for kindneſs, his charity continued ſtill patient, hoping all things. It was his common expreſſion, when he found his favours miſapplied, or himſelf impoſed upon, "I had much rather that my fa-"vours ſhould fall upon many undeſerving "objects, than that one truly deſerving "ſhould eſcape my notice *."

That charity which is not influenced by the motive of human praiſe, and that beneficence which adminiſters preſent relief to obviate preſent miſery, wait not for thoſe occaſions only, where their conſequences are moſt extenſive, leſt ſubordinate afflictions, which are the moſt frequent, ſhould remain neglected and unſuccoured. Of little acts of charity, which he daily exerciſed, volumes might be tranſcribed; for death, which encreaſes our veneration for the good (*Virtutem ſublatam ex oculis quærimus invidi*)

* Affectionate Tribute, page 7, 8, and 9—with ſome little variation in the language.

and

and diſpoſes the living to warmer expreſſions of gratitude, has brought me acquainted with innumerable inſtances of his generoſity. There is more miſery than affluence, and more affluence than liberality; and wherever the latter unite, there will be expectation: ſituated, therefore, as he was, in a conſpicuous point of view, where his character for liberality was univerſally known, various ſpecies of importunity augmented the channels through which his bounty flowed.

There is a condition of people, whoſe diſtreſſes are much greater than are generally imagined, and whoſe patience under ſuffering makes them leſs conſpicuous, though no leſs deſerving of protection, than the importunate poor. They have known better days, and conſequently feel more poignantly the reverſe of their condition; their reluctancy in complaining, often reduces them very low in health and ſpirits before they are diſcovered, and thereby diſeaſe is accumulated upon want. From the retreats of anxiety flow an infinitude of bodily diſtreſſes; of this he was tenderly ſenſible; and while this modeſt indigence intereſted

his

his ſympathy, it had acceſs to his bounty, in ſuch a manner as was moſt likely to blunt the acuteneſs of diſtreſs; for obligations are more grateful from the manner in which they are conferred, than from their magnitude. To preclude the neceſſity of acknowledgment in ſuch minds, he endeavoured to ſuggeſt ſome motive for his bounty, that might afford the receiver the merit of a claimant, and the liberal donor that of diſcharging a debt: after preſcribing for ſuch individuals, he remembered that there is ſuch a diſtemper as hunger, in the catalogue of human infirmities, and not unfrequently conferred his bounty under the pretence of defraying the expence of their medicines; for that charity which is not exerciſed to make uſury of fame, ſilently diffuſes the oil of gladneſs over the troubled commotions of the heart, and enjoys the private retreat of unmixed happineſs.

One inſtance, among numbers, I am urged to communicate here, as death now equally precludes the power of beſtowing, and the gratitude of acknowledging, future bounties: Captain Carver's is a name known

in

in the annals of misery, to which he was reduced by long-continued want; disease, its natural consequence, gave him access to Dr. FOTHERGILL; and I am informed by his widow, that as often as he applied for medical relief, the Doctor as often accompanied his prescription with a liberal donation. But Captain Carver was not an importunate solicitor; the mind not hardened by familiarity of refusal, or that hath not acquired, by frequent struggles, the art of suppressing its emotions, possesses that diffidence which is the inseparable associate of worth. Betwixt diffidence and want, many were the struggles of Captain Carver; but, overcome at length by the repeated acts of the Doctor's generosity, a jealous suspicion of becoming troublesome to his benefactor, determined him to prefer that want, and the deprivation of the necessaries of life, which put him out of the power of choice; for death soon triumphs over famine.—What a conflict of sullen greatness does this tragedy exhibit! When his fate was communicated to the Doctor, how tender was his expression! "If I had

"known

" known his diſtreſs, he ſhould not thus " have died * !"

* The king has ſince graciouſly condeſcended to allow the widow Carver a liberal annuity. The unfortunate huſband was only known to me on his death-bed. In the early ſtages of his diſeaſe he was able to wait upon Dr. FOTHERGILL; but in the progreſs of it, being confined to his bed, the Doctor requeſted me to viſit the Captain at his lodgings; and my firſt interview was within three days of his deceaſe. It was after his funeral that I felt myſelf more immediately intereſted in the ſuccour of the widow and orphans. As the Captain died pennyleſs, he was buried, to avoid expence, in the poor's ground, a part of the church-yard uſually appropriated to the abject poor. When I reflected upon the utility of his Travels, I conſidered him as a public loſs, and his offspring as the children of the public; and I preſented the widow with a few pounds, to clothe and feed herſelf and children: but the money, thus deſigned to ſatisfy her hunger, ſhe employed otherwiſe; ſhe had the corpſe of her huſband taken out of the poor's ground, and buried in ground containing the aſhes of higher company, and over it ſhe raiſed a decent monument to his memory. His Travels, however, will prove a more durable monument than ſtone; and, though the duſt with which we are mixed avails not to the living or to the dead, yet I was ſenſibly touched with this inſtance of poſt-mortuary affection, and have ſince endeavoured to mitigate the miſeries of a mind endowed with ſuch tender ſenſibilities.

He

He that is cordially diſpoſed to do good, will not find his beneficence diſappointed for want of occaſions to exerciſe it; for diſtreſs appears in a thouſand ſhapes, and affords the affluent as many opportunities of augmenting their own happineſs, by enlarging that of others. Were there no miſery in the world, there would be few occaſions for the exerciſe of thoſe generous virtues, which beget gratitude and thankfulneſs on one hand, and the tender emotions of ſympathy and humanity on the other. Conſcious as we are, that no one is exempt from the painful viciſſitudes of life, and that the bleſſed to-day may to-morrow experience a bitter reverſe, the diſtreſſed are ever objects of commiſeration, and ſhould raiſe in our hearts that kind of compaſſion, and obtain that aid from us, which we ſhould look for were ſuch afflictions ſuffered to overtake us.

So Dr. FOTHERGILL reflected, and ſo he conſiſtently acted; for he was almoſt inceſſantly ſuggeſting methods of mitigating, not only abject poverty, but likewiſe that ſpecies of poignant ſenſibility which the reverſe of better days naturally inflicts.

Feelings of this nature preſented to him a plan for relieving the diſtreſſes of the lower claſſes of the people, by leſſening the price of proviſions. Where the profit of labour is barely adequate to the expence of ſubſiſtence, from unfavourable ſeaſons, or from whatever cauſe a temporary ſcarcity of the neceſſaries of life may originate, the ſeverity is peculiarly felt by the poor: when land fails of its uſual product in any one general article of diet, every other being proportionally more demanded, the price of the whole will be enhanced. Such a national ſcarcity can only be obviated by importation from another country, at the expence of money or ſome other equivalent value, and hence conſtitutes only a partial remedy; but could a ſubſtitute for national ſcarcity be found, which is not the product of land, ſuch a ſubſtitute would afford the moſt effectual means of obviating impending diſtreſs; and this the ocean affords, which barters its produce for labour alone. If the inhabitants of a country, ſurrounded by a ſea abounding with fiſh, were accuſtomed to live upon this food one day in the week, it is evident that the ſame land would

ſupport

ſupport one ſeventh more inhabitants, without enhancing the neceſſaries of diet. If our fiſheries contributed to ſubſiſt the inhabitants of Spain, Portugal, and Italy, whilſt our own poor were at times wanting dread, was it not true policy to encourage the more general uſe of this cheap and dietetic article?

At the approach of the ſevere winter of 1767, Dr. FOTHERGILL propoſed a ſcheme, and liberally contributed to raiſe a fund for enſuring its ſucceſs, to purchaſe fiſh at a wholeſale cheap price, and to diſpoſe of them at a ſmall loſs, till the whole ſubſcription was expended, for the benefit of the poor and middle ranks of houſekeepers. The ſociety, who ſupported this ſcheme, which was continued to the year 1770, in the ſame manner purchaſed potatoes in Lancaſhire, or other cheap markets, and conveyed them by water to the metropolis, where there is more poverty, as well as more wealth, than in any other part of the kingdom; and, to countenance this diet, he purchaſed from the warehouſes, opened for the ſale of theſe articles, the proviſions of his own table, once at leaſt a week. If this conduct deſerves to

be recorded as an example for poſterity, I ſhall be approved for introducing likewiſe the reſpectable names of David Barclay, John Barclay, Daniel Mildred, Samuel Hoare, Oſgood Hanbury, Capel Hanbury, John Harman, John Strettell, Iſaac Walker, Zachary Cockfield, Thomas Corbyn, and William Archer, as examples of beneficence, who co-operated in this patriotic and humane undertaking.

To break a monopoly which had highly enhanced the price of freſh fiſh in all the markets about London, he firſt ſuggeſted the ſcheme of bringing fiſh by land-carriage; and though it did not ſucceed in every reſpect, it tended to deſtroy a ſuppoſed combination, which has never ſince ariſen to the ſame alarming extent; and may probably long be remembered, as a project which, though now ſuſpended, may be renewed at a future time, ſhould the ſame complaint again occur.

To render bread much cheaper to the poor, though equally as wholeſome as the beſt wheaten, Dr. FOTHERGILL propoſed a method of making it with one part of potatoes, and three parts of houſehold flour; and to encourage its uſe, he cauſed pro-

per

per directions to be diſtributed among the bakers and others in the city. I have often eat this bread, and were the price equal, I ſhould prefer it to that made of the fineſt flour.

A wholeſome bread may likewiſe be made, by mixing the fine flour of Indian corn with that of wheat, in equal proportions; which, if rightly managed, the colour will be about the ſame as the ſtandard wheaten bread, and, before the preſent conteſt with America, might have been ſold about two-pence in the quartern loaf cheaper than the fine wheaten, when that may be at eight-pence per quartern; and, ſhould days of peace return, will doubtleſs be again equally cheap.

No ſubſtance, uſed as aliment, has been more fully and ſatisfactorily proved to be nutritious than this corn, which was once imported hither in conſiderable quantities from North America, where it forms a large ſhare of the diet of both the rich and the poor: it is light and eaſy of digeſtion, and at the ſame time affords much nouriſhment, as thoſe moſt addicted to it endure exerciſe and labour with ſuperior eaſe; and it has likewiſe been particularly remarked, that

horſes fed with it will travel farther, and bear the fatigues of a long journey much better, than when fed with any other food whatever. It was formerly much uſed about London for the feeding of hogs, and it has rendered their fleſh whiter, ſweeter, and better flavoured, than when fed with any thing elſe hitherto uſed; and for black cattle, deer, and poultry, there is no food ſuperior to this grain.

The people of North America dreſs the flour into various forms, which it is as well calculated for as that of wheat; in the Weſt Indies it conſtitutes a large ſhare of the food of the negroes, who, perhaps, undergo as much hardſhip and labour as moſt of the ſons of men.

The flour of this corn poſſeſſes, to moſt, an agreeable ſweet flavour; ſo that ſome perſons, who have accuſtomed themſelves to eat the bread made of it, find a difficulty in returning to the uſe of any other. Great care is requiſite in grinding the corn, as a part of the interior edge of the grain is compoſed of a ligneous ſpongy ſubſtance, the middle of which is of a dark brown colour, and of a bitter taſte, which, if ground

ground into the flour, produces a diſagreeable taſte; to avoid which, the millſtones ſhould be ſet ſo wide as but juſt to burſt the thick or farinaceous part of the grain, which ſhould be paſſed through a ſieve, in order to ſeparate the above-mentioned bitteriſh ſubſtance; the grain ſhould then be ground with the ſtones ſet to render it ſufficiently fine: by this precaution the flour is as white as that of the fineſt wheat, and full as pleaſant to eat; it poſſeſſes, like potatoes, the quality of preſerving the bread, made from a mixture of it, in a moiſt ſtate for many days, which, at leaſt in warm weather, is no inconſiderable advantage *.

Though numerous rivulets, when united, conſtitute a conſiderable current; yet, various as were the channels of the Doctor's bounty in the minor departments of beneficence, they formed but a ſmall proportion of the ample income which flowed

* Whilſt I am conſidering the means of relieving the poor by a healthy ſubſtitute for wheaten bread, I cannot but recommend the peruſal of a performance lately publiſhed, intitled, Obſervations on ſuch nutritive Vegetables as may be ſubſtituted in the Place of ordinary Food, extracted from the French of M. Parmentier. 8vo. Murray. London, 1783.

from the extenſive exerciſe of his profeſſion. Thoſe acts of beneficence, where, like the oak which germinates from an acorn, great effects ariſe from ſmall cauſes, may be claſſed under minor departments, when referred to him, whoſe liberality flowed into ſo many wide and diſtant channels: ſeldom was any uſeful ſubſcription ſet on foot, either in this kingdom or its dependencies, without his name ſtanding foremoſt in the liſt, as many of the ſchools at home and abroad can gratefully evidence: in public calamities, as in inſtances of private diſtreſs, but in a more enlarged manner, the ſympathy of his heart expanded the bounty of his purſe—

> His boſom Truth's fair palace; and his arms
> Benevolent, the harbour of mankind!
>
> BROOKE's Guſt. Vaſa.

A man who devoted his labour and fortune to public good, without oſtentation, may have raiſed many monuments of public benefit, that are too remote to be clearly recollected, or too recent to be fully aſcertained. In the late war, when the ſucceſs of our arms had filled the priſons with captives, and reduced our enemies to a ſtate too abject to adminiſter ſupport adequate to the

the miſery of their own people, a national ſubſcription was inſtituted, to feed and clothe theſe unfortunate victims of war; for a brave people, like the Perſian Cyrus, deemed thoſe no longer enemies whom they had vanquiſhed *. In this noble undertaking Dr. FOTHERGILL bore a conſiderable ſhare: the Society of Quakers, who ſcarcely conſtitute the two hundredth part of the nation, raiſed above one fourth of the whole ſubſcription; towards which he was an ample contributor, and was appointed one of the Committee † for conducting and appropriating this national bounty; of which no inſtance of equal urbanity was ever recorded in the heroic ages of Greece or Rome ‡.

The

* Norborn Berkeley, afterwards Lord Botetourt, then colonel of the militia, who guarded the French priſoners at Wincheſter, was ſtruck with their diſtreſs, and was the firſt who propoſed a ſubſcription for their relief.

† The benevolent Thomas Corbyn, with the late Richard How, were likewiſe of this Committee.

‡ Dr. Johnſon, in his noble preface to the Report of the above Committee, juſtly remarks, that "new ſcenes of miſery make new impreſſions; and much of the charity

The preſent unnatural war in America * afforded a freſh example of popular miſery, and another inſtance of Dr. FOTHERGILL'S beneficence;

* Whilſt this ſheet was in the preſs, the Preliminary Articles of Peace were ſigned, on the 20th of January 1783.

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charity which produced theſe donations, may be ſuppoſed to have been generated by a ſpecies of calamity never known amongſt us before. Some imagine that the laws have provided all neceſſary relief in common caſes, and remit the poor to the care of the public; ſome have been deceived by fictitious miſery, and are afraid of encouraging impoſture; many have obſerved want to be the effect of vice, and conſider caſual almsgivers as patrons of idleneſs. But all theſe difficulties vaniſh in the preſent caſe: we know that for the priſoners of war there is no legal proviſion; we ſee their diſtreſs, and are certain of its cauſe; we know that they are poor and naked, and poor and naked without crime."

"But it is not neceſſary to make any conceſſions. The opponents of this charity muſt allow it to be good, and will not eaſily prove it not to be the beſt. That charity is beſt, of which the conſequences are moſt extenſive: the relief of enemies has a tendency to unite mankind in fraternal affection; to ſoften the acrimony of adverſe nations, and diſpoſe them to peace and amity: in the mean time, it alleviates captivity, and takes away ſomething from the miſeries of war. The rage of war, however mitigated, will always fill the world with ca-

beneficence; for his bounty flowed copiouſly into the channels of miſery, wherever it exiſted. As the contention in America was embittered by reciprocal injuries, each contending party was more and more ſtimulated to acts of violence, till reiterated diſtreſſes had level'd moſt ranks of people into penury and want. To obviate theſe ravages of inteſtine war, a ſubſcription was opened among the Quakers of Europe, for the ſervice of their fellow-ſubjects beyond the Atlantic. If Dr. FOTHERGILL did not firſt propoſe, he was certainly one of the moſt early and liberal advocates for this generous ſubſcription. Its application was not confined to any ſect; it was extended to the miſerable of every denomination; for, under affliction, we ought to be brethren by ſympathy. But to deſcribe the

lamity and horror: let it not then be unneceſſarily extended; let animoſity and hoſtility ceaſe together; and no man be longer deemed an enemy, than while his ſword is drawn againſt us."

"The effects of theſe contributions may, perhaps, reach ſtill further. Truth is beſt ſupported by virtue: we may hope from thoſe who feel or who ſee our charity, that they ſhall no longer deteſt as hereſy that religion, which makes its profeſſors the followers of HIM, who has commanded us to "do good to them "that hate us."

Doctor

Doctor in every act of his beneficence, would conſtitute an epitome of human woe counteracted by godlike generoſity.

I hope it will not be deemed a partial attachment to ſect, ſhould I indulge myſelf in a digreſſion not immediately connected with the object of my narrative. Conſidering the general philanthropy of a Society of which Dr. FOTHERGILL was a diſtinguiſhed member, it may ſeem ſtrange that it ſhould have obtained the obloquy and invidious reflections of perſons of all denominations, when a little enquiry would have afforded ſufficient reaſons for adopting more favourable ſentiments. A cauſe, and one of the moſt difficult to eradicate, is the impreſſions imbibed in early life, prejudicial to this Society. No book, perhaps, is at preſent more generally read in ſchools than Guthrie's Geographical Grammar; and, ſo far as it reſpects the religious principles of the Quakers, it is compoſed of errors and miſrepreſentations, with which the writer would have been aſhamed to have charged any of its members: but early impreſſions being moſt permanent, and theſe prejudices being interwoven in ſchool education,

education, become familiar to youth, and grow up with them, and conſequently poſſeſſing no novelty, they excite no future inveſtigation; and thus opinions, founded upon miſrepreſentation, are admitted as habitual and eſtabliſhed truths. What is different from the general habitude of mankind, will not acquire general applauſe: it is not flattering to ſelf-love to admit, much leſs to approve, opinions which controvert its own; and thoſe of the Quakers conſiſt of ſuch as were calculated to obtain popular obloquy. The whole tenor of their principles being contrary to war, they could not therefore raiſe the eſteem of the military; as they had no prieſts, and conſidered the exerciſe of the Goſpel to be free, they could not conciliate the affections of the clergy; in like manner, as they diſcouraged going to law, they could not expect the favour of the profeſſors of law: and thus the principal ſources, upon which the public opinion muſt depend, were naturally adverſe to a Society, whoſe principles counteracted their views and their emoluments.

Whoever is bold enough to diſſent from popular opinion, is reprobated as obſtinate

or fanatic by popular deciſion; but, however ſudden paſſion may controvert a general poſition, mankind are ſeldom long and deliberately obſtinate againſt private intereſt. But the ſyſtem on which I am adverting, as it admitted not of oaths, it debarred itſelf from all emoluments under government; as it repreſſed pomp and ceremonious addreſs, it could neither court the great nor flatter the gay. From ſuch a ſyſtem of ſelf-denial the Society could never be numerous; and, as might be naturally imagined, would rather have excited pity than perſecution: but, unenviable as their religious opinions might appear, ſo natural is it for the ſtrong to oppreſs the weak, that they were compelled to ſeal thoſe opinions with their blood. Time, however, which is the meaſure of actions, has placed men and opinions in new points of view:

Opinionum commenta delet dies, naturæ judicia confirmat. CIC.

Perſecution drove the Quakers to America, where they founded a government unknown in modern times; where the world beheld a people in power, the only people recorded

corded in hiſtory, who never exerciſed that power to perſecute the weak!

What is familiar and near us, excites little ſcrutiny or inveſtigation; but the time may come, when a wiſe legiſlator may deſcend to enquire, by what medium a whole Society, in both the Old and New World, is made to think and act with uniformity for upwards of a century! By what polity, without emolument from government, they have become the only people on earth free from poverty! By what œconomy they have thus prevented beggary and want among any of their members, whilſt the nation groans under taxes for the poor! Then perhaps their fanaticiſm may not appear to the public in a worſe point of view than has been exhibited by a modern writer on the continent, whoſe ſentiments are as follow. After giving a view of their religious principles, he ſays, "* Après cela qu'on range "tant qu'on voudra les Quakers parmi les "fanatiques; ce ſont toujours des fana- "tiques bien eſtimables. Je ne puis m'em- "pêcher

* Let thoſe, who pleaſe, conſider the Quakers as fanatics; they are ſuch fanatics as always merit eſteem.

As

" pêcher de déclarer, que je les eſtime
" un peuple vraiment grand, vertueux, plein
" d'induſtrie, d'intelligence, et de ſageſſe.
" Ce ſont des gens animés des principes
" les plus étendus de beneficence, qu'il y
" ait jamais eu ſur la terre. Leur charité
" ſe porte ſur toute la race du genre hu-
" main, ne refuſant à perſonne les miſé-
" ricordes des dieux. Ils reconnoiſſent
" publiquement que la liberté univerſelle
" eſt due à tout le monde. Ils condam-
" nent les impôts, et neanmoins ils les
" payent, et s'y ſoumettent ſans murmure.
" Enfin, c'eſt peut-être le ſeul parti chez
" les Chrétiens, dont la pratique du corps
" entier reponde conſtamment à ſes prin-
" cipes. Je n'ai point de honte d'avouer
" que

As to myſelf, I cannot but acknowledge, that I conſider them as a great and virtuous people, induſtrious, intelligent, and wiſe, and animated with the moſt extenſive principles of beneficence that have ever yet appeared. Their charity is extended to the whole human race, denying no one a godlike compaſſion. They publicly acknowledge that liberty is due to all; and though they condemn impoſts (eccleſiaſtical taxes, and thoſe for carrying on war) they ſubmit to them without murmuring. They are, perhaps, the only Society of Chriſtians, whoſe practice and principles amongſt all its members conſtantly correſpond. I am not aſhamed to own, that I have repeatedly peruſed, with

ſingular

" que j'ai lu et relu avec un plaiſir ſingulier " l'Apologie du Quakériſme par Robert " Barclay; il m'a convaincu que c'eſt, " tout calculé, le ſyſtême le plus raiſon- " nable et le plus parfait qu'on ait encore " imaginé." Encyclopedie Fr. T. 13. p. 648.

He that ſo arduouſly and ſucceſsfully exerted his abilities and fortune in promoting private and public good, was, upon numerous occaſions, a generous patron of Literature: though above courting the adulation of authors, he endeavoured to direct the genius and improve the writings of perſons of uſeful talents: without leiſure to arrange and publiſh ſo much of his own experience as the public deſired, he ſought opportunities of ſuggeſting to others ſuch objects of enquiry as might prove moſt beneficial to the community. Thoſe who are the moſt capable of inſtructing mankind, are oftentimes, from a diffidence which aſſociates with true excellence; moſt

ſingular pleaſure, Robert Barclay's Apology for the Quakers; and I am convinced, take it all together, that it is the moſt rational and perfect ſyſtem that hath ever yet been conceived.

backward of imparting inſtruction. Cleghorn, the ingenious and inquiſitive Cleghorn, who practiſed long and ſucceſsfully at Minorca, returned to England without having arranged his important hiſtory of the diſeaſes of this iſland, which he afterwards did at the ſuggeſtion of Dr. FOTHERGILL *. Theſe phyſicians, to whom the world has been ſo much indebted, as they had been early colleagues in ſtudy, ſo they continued intimate friends, emulating each other in medical reſearches. The latter, when he firſt read what Cleghorn had effected, ſpeaks of his labours with that liberal ſpirit of approbation, which envies not the laudable actions of another: "†Mi- "raberis proculdubio Cleghornii noſtri "induſtriam;

* The moſt material parts of Dr. Cleghorn's excellent publication were communicated to Dr. FOTHERGILL, in letters from Minorca, dated in the years 1742 and 1744, methodically digeſted, and written in pure, elegant, and claſſical Latin, which language he wrote with great fluency. Theſe letters Dr. FOTHERGILL tranſmitted to Dr. Cuming, who was likewiſe an intimate correſpondent of Dr. Cleghorn's, as well as of Dr. Ruſſell's.

† Thou wilt no doubt admire the induſtry of our friend

"induſtriam; in orbis etiam angulo ſitus "majores facit progreſſus quam noſtrorum "quivis, quibus etiam non deſunt idonea "ſtudiorum adminicula. Alius itaque alium "excitemus, ut ejus inſequamur veſtigia, "tantoque viro dignos evademus amicos."

To Dr. Ruſſell, his early aſſociate, and afterwards his correſpondent at Aleppo, and whoſe life he has commemorated with the tenderneſs of fraternal affection; to the amiable Ruſſell, he urged the importance of an hiſtorical narrative of that city and its environs; and which the latter executed, with a perſpicuity that will hand down the work, and the reputation of its author, to diſtant poſterity *.

Within

friend Cleghorn; who, ſituated in a corner of the world, has made greater progreſs than any of us, who even do not want the proper aids of ſtudy. Let us therefore ſtimulate one another, that we may follow his footſteps, and become the worthy friends of ſo great a man. Letter to Dr. Cuming, 14th Auguſt 1742.

* From the time he left England, to his return in February 1755, we had maintained, ſays Dr. FOTHERGILL, a regular correſpondence. I could not forbear mentioning to him repeatedly, how acceptable a more accurate account of Aleppo would be to this nation,

Within the extent of my knowledge, ſimilar inſtances might be largely multiplied; and they equally point out his generous ardour in the promotion of uſeful knowledge: in many literary performances, indeed, his aſſiſtance has acquired public acknowledgment, as the reſpectable names of a Rutty, a Macbride, a Falconar, and many others, will teſtify. Few men of diſtinguiſhed reputation paſs through life with merely ſilent admiration; gratitude or reſpect will at length ſingle them out as patrons of ſcience; and dedications of juſt applauſe, or miſapplied adulation, will follow: but as Dr. FOTHERGILL was uniformly more deſirous of doing good, than

and to all Europe; that no perſon would probably ever ſtand a chance of ſucceeding in it ſo happily as himſelf; that his long reſidence there, his knowledge of the language, the manners, cuſtoms, diſeaſes of the place, the great credit he had acquired amongſt all ranks, by an able, diligent, and diſintereſted exertion of his faculties, his influence over the Paſcha, and the reſpect paid him by the Turks themſelves, would facilitate every enquiry. He viewed the propoſal in the ſame light, collected materials, made ſuitable enquiries, and has erected a laſting and honourable monument to his memory. Life of Dr. Ruſſell.

of

of having it known, he was averſe to dedications, and conſidered them as a ſpecies of literary pageantry, more productive of envy to the patron, than of advantage to the author. I was once with him at Leahall, when a gentleman, whoſe reputation juſtly afforded him the moſt honourable diſtinction, requeſted to addreſs a work of intrinſic merit to the Doctor, and I well remember his reply:—"My friendſhip "will not be augmented by ſuch a public "inſtance of reſpect: apply therefore to "ſome eminent perſon, whoſe friendſhip "may thus be conciliated; whereby," added he kindly, "an old friend may be "preſerved, and a new one gained."

That immenſe work of Botany, wherein the pencil of Miller illuſtrated, in a ſtyle of unprecedented elegance, the ſexual ſyſtem of Linnæus, chiefly from the originals at Upton, was actually dedicated to the Doctor; and afterwards, with no little difficulty in recalling the copies, cancelled at his expreſs ſolicitation. Though he delighted to encourage ingenuity, he diſliked to be told of it.

PURVER, the indefatigable tranſlator of the Bible and Teſtament, by wonderful ſelf-exertion, acquired an extenſive knowledge of the languages requiſite for this arduous labour; and at length effected, by the patronage, and ſolely by the patronage of Dr. FOTHERGILL, a literal tranſlation of the Sacred Scriptures *: and though a tenaciouſneſs in the learned author for provincial idiom, rendered this valuable tranſlation leſs read and eſteemed, yet, independent of idiomatic objections, it may juſtly be eſtimated among the principal productions of the century.

In the proceſs of this narrative, I have often had occaſion to reflect, that what is known cannot be immediately told. There are circumſtances connected with the living, which delicacy forbids to record; or with the dead, whoſe aſhes it were cruel to the ſurviving friends to moleſt: hence many a good man's actions are buried in oblivion. Such muſt be the lot of many a noble inſtance of Dr. FOTHERGILL's munificence.

* In two volumes folio, anno 1765.

I ſhould

I ſhould even have paſſed over in ſilence that which the late Dr. Knight afforded, had it not been generally known, and recently revived by the claſſical pen of a reſpectable phyſician *. The Librarian of the Britiſh Muſeum, whoſe character was deſervedly eſteemed, by ſome ſpeculations in mining, more plauſible than productive, became ſo far involved in his circumſtances, as to be obliged to apply to thoſe he deemed his friends for pecuniary ſupport; but his application was received with coolneſs. In this dilemma, though he had enjoyed the perſonal acquaintance of Dr. FOTHERGILL, he could not have preſumed upon making ſuch a requeſt, but from the compulſive motive of neceſſity. The ingenious Knight, with diffidence, told the Doctor what would render him once more a happy man. The anſwer given by the phyſician of philanthropy, whoſe heart never felt the diſtreſs of another without wiſhing to remove it, was ſhort but expreſſive,—"*I will then*

* Memoirs of the Life, and a View of the Character of the late Dr. FOTHERGILL; by G. Thompſon, M.D.

"*make thee happy* *." His was not that drop-like bounty, which pauſes in its progreſs; it was full, flowing, and benign †; for I am informed, that in this inſtance it amounted to about a thouſand guineas.

Nullus argento color eſt avaris,
Abdito terris—— ‡ HOR. lib. ii. od. 2.

Perſons, whoſe moments are devoted to employments of profit, are rarely diſpoſed to ſacrifice private emolument to public good. Time, to a medical character of high reputation, is a lucrative reality; and he that devotes a ſhare of it to the benefit of the community, in that proportion ſacrifices his private intereſt. It is rarely, indeed, that phyſicians depart from the routine of profeſſional practice; but Dr. FOTHERGILL, whoſe enlarged mind was capable of embracing every object of utility,

* The immenſe artificial loadſtone, deſcribed in Dr. FOTHERGILL's Works, was the invention of Dr. Knight, and preſented by the former to the Royal Society.

† See Dr. Hird's Affectionate Tribute, page 7.

‡ Gold hath no luſtre of its own;
It ſhines by temperate uſe alone. FRANCIS.

was

was an exception: the punctuality of his conduct, and the perſpicuity of his reflections, gave an activity to his mind to promote improvement and perfection in every thing around him. The crouded ſtreets of the Metropolis, its ſuperb edifices, and perpetual traffic, excite admiration in the moſt indifferent, whoſe attention may not have been attracted by more minute inveſtigation; but the active mind of our Aſſociate, unreſtrained in its ſurvey of utility, was often engaged in detecting error and pointing out improvement in this ſplendid city, which he communicated to thoſe concerned in its government, either immediately, or by letters in the public prints. His letters on ſubjects of police, and in other departments, could they be collected together, would conſtitute an ample and uſeful volume, calculated to inſtruct the magiſtrate, and inform the architect and tradeſman. He condeſcended even to exert his influence in the improvement of the common pavement; to widen the ſtreets, and open new communications for the health and convenience of the citizens.

As he conſidered the eaſy and cheap conveyance

veyance of merchandize, and other articles of conſumption, from various parts of the nation to and from the Metropolis, as of immenſe importance to the manufactures, trade, exports, and wealth of the city, he ſuggeſted the plan of bringing the northern navigations, which already unite Liverpool, Briſtol, and Hull, into the vicinity of London, by new canals, the grand reſervoir of which he projected to riſe in Cold-bath-fields. In his fertile imagination, I have liſtened with pleaſure to the familiar manner in which he delineated the facility of this important intercourſe; and probably, when the great tendency of trade towards the north of this kingdom, from the advantage of navigable canals, ſhall have rouſed the citizens of London to protect and proſecute their own intereſts, ſuch a project may be ſeriouſly revived, and effectually executed *.

Thoſe only, who have acquired the habit of doing much in a little time, know how to eſtimate its value; and the œconomy of time, applied to the various concerns of

* See a judicious pamphlet, juſt publiſhed, intitled, Conſiderations on the Idea of uniting the Rivers Thames and Severn, 4to. 1782.

trade

trade and commerce, admits of the moſt profitable balance in favour of induſtry and traffic. In this uſeful point of view, among many others, he conſidered eaſy communication through the ſtreets of London as of ſingular importance in a mercantile city, and lamented the obvious deficiencies in this reſpect, which occurred in almoſt every part of London. From the great northern road the city is chiefly acceſſible by Smithfield and Biſhopſgate-ſtreet; and from the former of theſe to the latter, there is no communication that conveniently admits of more than one carriage to paſs at a time; whilſt ſuitable avenues, with little expence, might have been formed, by an ample entrance from Moorfields to the Manſion-houſe, and from Iſlington to Black-friars-bridge, in ſtraight lines: this he projected; and, by the exertions of Charles Dingly, who conſtructed the ſaw-mills at Limehouſe, in imitation of thoſe at Sardam, it was near being accompliſhed. Black-friars-bridge, one of the firſt ſtructures of the kind that human induſtry and judgment ever executed, and which covers the wealthieſt ſtream in the univerſe, certainly de-

ſerves an avenue of ſome elegance, eſpecially where elegance would neceſſarily be joined with utility.

Many other parts might be gradually improved, by ſeizing the opportunities of caſual conflagrations, or the ſlow but more certain dilapidations of time, to widen the ſtreets, or to improve the ſtructure of new edifices; and few opportunities of this kind eſcaped the Doctor's attention, and his conſequent recommendation to the magiſtracy*.

Indeed, one of the moſt dreadful conſequences of a large and cloſe-built city, is the conflagrations which ſo frequently break out, and againſt the devaſtation of which no remedy of the legiſlature has yet been adequate; nor perhaps ever will be, whilſt, under the privilege of freedom, ſtructures are raiſed, and employments carried on, in ſituations which true policy would interdict. Of theſe, ſugar-houſes, and the operations

* After the conflagration of Langdale's diſtillery, at the bottom of Holborn-hill, the Doctor took much pains to have the buildings, to be conſtructed on their ruins, thrown back, in a line with thoſe on Holborn-hill; but, laudable as his endeavours were, he laboured in vain.

in

in them, where much fuel is neceſſarily expended, afford ſtriking examples; and in this point of view engaged the attention of the Doctor, who at different times propoſed various modes of prevention. When the Minories was laid open, by pulling down the old houſes, the ſituation appeared to him as very eligible for the conſtruction of theſe and ſimilar hazardous buildings, where the uſe of fire in quantity might endanger houſes in their vicinity. Two letters upon this ſubject, though printed without his name, he told me were his productions; which I have inſerted, as inſtances of his regard to objects of general utility*.

A cauſe

* GAZETTEER, December 30, 1768.

"IN the compaſs of one week two ſugar-houſes, in the moſt populous parts of the city, have been deſtroyed by fire, and have ſpread deſolation and terror in the neighbourhood.

"I conſider theſe edifices as built for deſtruction; there being more ſugar-houſes burnt down than any other houſes of manufactory.

"Whether this is owing to any fault in their conſtruction, or to the ignorance, neglect, and ſtupidity of thoſe who are employed in this buſineſs, I know not.

"Ought

A cauſe of deſtruction, almoſt peculiar to great cities, and perhaps equally frequent and

" Ought a well-governed city to permit ſuch buildings to be erected as are attended with ſuch dreadful conſequences? Moſt certainly it ought not.

" A gentleman, whoſe life is of great conſequence to many, as well as to his family, lay extremely ill of a dangerous diſorder: the terrible alarm of fire within a few doors made it neceſſary to take him out of his bed, and to carry him, half naked, to the firſt hoſpitable door where the family could think of getting admittance. His recovery was extremely doubtful before; this event will not leſſen the hazard.

" Shall families be ſtripped of their ſupport, ſhall the public be deprived of uſeful members, ſhall diſtreſs and ruin be ſpread through a neighbourhood unneceſſarily, and without any endeavour to prevent the like inconvenience for the future? Humanity, at leaſt, ſpeaks another language. Perhaps hearts, obdurate to every other ſenſation but that of gain, would paſs through the ruins of the metropolis itſelf, without a ſigh, or a wiſh for the prevention of ſuch fatal accidents!—

" The city ſhews, in many reſpects, an inclination for improvement; and I wiſh that no more ſugar-houſes might be ſuffered to be built in the city, nor thoſe that are built tolerated beyond a certain time, that is, their preſent leaſes.

" I would not preſume to direct where theſe now neceſſary edifices ought to be built; but, as I think no perſon ought haſtily to find fault with any thing, unleſs

and fatal as the foregoing, is the mode of interment of the bodies of the dead, and particularly

leſs he propoſes a remedy, I take the liberty to ſuggeſt the following to the conſideration of the public.

"In the tract of ground that lies between the Minories and Poor Jewry-ſtreet, I think there is ſpace enough now vacant, or likely to become ſo, on which as many ſugar-houſes might be erected as there are in the city.

"Let an act of parliament be obtained to prohibit the future erection of any ſugar-houſes, except in this particular part. The ſcite would be very advantageous to the ſugar-bakers themſelves; it is near the water-ſide, and the conveyance to all parts of the town eaſy. Their fuel, their ſugars, would coſt leſs to be laid in here, than in moſt other places. Beſides, the city would be eaſed, by this means, of one of the greateſt nuiſances that attends it, the ſugar-carts; the unloading and loading of which coſt more time to the paſſengers in carriages, than the brewers drays themſelves; for moſt of the ſugar-houſes in the city are in narrow ſtreets, yet in ſtreets and paſſages much frequented: Bow-lane, Knight-rider-ſtreet, and ſome others, might be mentioned.

"As the parliament is ſitting, and the city of London may have occaſion to apply on divers accounts, I wiſh they would be pleaſed, in conjunction with the inſurance-offices, whoſe intereſt is at ſtake, to take the premiſes into conſideration, and apply for an act to prevent the building or rebuilding of any more ſuch works in the heart of the city, as in every reſpect they

are

particularly thoſe of the poor; and which is ſtill continued in this metropolis. In ſome

are prejudicial; for the vaſt quantity of ſmoke they produce, and the filth attending them, are as injurious to the health, as the fatal accidents of fire are deſtructive of the ſafety of the inhabitants."

GAZETTEER, January 19, 1769.

"THE ſame motives that induced me firſt to take notice of the recent calamities occaſioned by the ſugar-houſes lately burnt down, incite me to revive the ſubject.

"In ſcenes of hurry, and perpetual calls to new objects of pleaſure, profit, party, and perhaps diſtreſs, it is not to be wondered at, if remarks, even that all approve, are read and forgot.

"Mention was made in the paper referred to, of the dangers to which the ſick in the neighbourhood of fires were peculiarly expoſed. I have met with ſeveral inſtances of this nature, ſince thoſe accidents. One of them is a woman with child, and then within two months of her time: the fire being in the ſame ſtreet, her ſurprize was exceſſive; and ſhe was ſeized with a diſorder that ſeems to threaten the life of the mother and the child, and to deprive a young family of their comfort and ſupport.

"No doubt but ſuch accidents occur in the vicinity of all fires. Let us, however, ſecure ourſelves from the hazard as much as we can.

"Within the circuit of a mile and an half, in the moſt populous part of the city of London, there are not leſs

ſome burying-grounds the graves are made ſufficiently wide to contain three or four wooden coffins abreaſt, and deep enough to hold twice as many in depth: theſe pits, after each burial, are covered with a few looſe boards, and a little mould, to hide the coffin from common view; but they are never filled up till the whole complement of corpſes has been interred. When this is done, a ſecond grave is opened upon the

leſs than eighteen ſugar-houſes. Five or ſix of theſe have been burnt down within the laſt twenty years, and ſome of them twice, as I am credibly informed.

"Can the magiſtrates, can the repreſentatives of this great city, vindicate their ſupineneſs, in expoſing ſuch a number of their fellow citizens to all the calamities ariſing from theſe houſes, devoted, as it were, to the flames, and to ſpread terror, death, and ruin, through the neighbourhoods in which they are erected?

"It is ſufficient for a private man to have pointed out the evil. It now becomes the duty of the public, and of thoſe particularly whom the public choice has raiſed to dignity and honour, to take care that the commonwealth ſuffers no loſs.

"To theſe I call; I call likewiſe to the inhabitants in the neighbourhood of theſe buildings, to rouſe their repreſentatives in common council, in the great council of the nation likewiſe, to ſecure them from impending danger."

ſame plan, cloſe to the firſt, leaving the ſides of the former coffins ſtill expoſed; by which means theſe wholeſale receptacles of the dead become ſo offenſive, as frequently to oblige the miniſters, and others upon funeral duty, to ſtand at a conſiderable diſtance, to avoid the ſtench ariſing from them. The infalubrity of ſuch a practice is confirmed by the teſtimonies of many writers *. It was what Dr. FOTHERGILL uniformly diſcouraged; and, to ſupply the defect of burying-places within the city, he propoſed the ſite of Moorfields, as lying on the north ſide of the town; ſouthern winds being more ſultry, and likely to convey to the inhabitants any

* I have known inſtances of the hoſpital-fever, ſays Sir John Pringle, beginning in a ward, when there was no other cauſe but one of the men having a mortified limb. Diſeaſes of the Army.

He adds, amongſt the cauſes of malignant fevers, burials within the towns, and the bodies not laid deep. Ibid.

Foreſtus ſays, he was an eye-witneſs to a plague which aroſe from the ſame cauſe.

Diodorus Siculus obſerves, that the putrid ſteams ariſing from the bodies of thoſe who lay unburied, was one of the cauſes of that dreadful diſtemper that broke out among the Carthaginians at the ſiege of Syracuſe. And numerous other authors atteſt the ſame facts.

noxious exhalations, the diffuſion of which, it is well known, northern winds tend rather to check than promote. That this, however, might be executed with decent elegance, he formed the idea of conſtructing Cemeteries in this large ſpace of ground, formed into diſtinct regular rows, ſuitable for every degree of citizens, and appropriated to families, in the ſame manner as vaults in general are.

In a large and crouded city, where the free circulation of the air muſt neceſſarily be greatly obſtructed, every means conducive to the preſervation of health ſhould be ſtudiouſly promoted; and, next to bodily exerciſe, and the enjoyment of the open air, nothing perhaps contributes more to it than cleanlineſs by bathing, which the inhabitants of warm climates, both in ancient and modern times, conſidered likewiſe as the higheſt gratification, as the multitude of their Baths, and the ſtupendous ſtructures raiſed for private and public accommodation, fully teſtify.

The wealthier citizens of the preſent time are, indeed, in the habit of enjoying this ſalutary luxury; though, from the re-

volution in dreſs, and the frequent change of cloathing, unknown to the ancients, they have neither the neceſſity of former times, nor the occaſions which the poor at preſent labour under, of waſhing themſelves from the impurities incident on manual employments, and the want of change of cloathing.

In converſation, Dr. FOTHERGILL has repeatedly mentioned to me the importance of public Baths, for the convenience of the lower claſſes of the people; and the annexed letter evinces, that he took ſome active ſteps towards the accompliſhment of this eaſy, ſafe, and ſalutary gratification*.

In

* "To the DIRECTORS of the New River Company.

"HARPUR STREET, Nov. 16, 1780.

"GENTLEMEN,

"I take the liberty to mention a circumſtance, which I think is of ſome importance to the ſalubrity of your water, and therefore not unworthy of your conſideration.

"Returning lately from the North, and paſſing through Ware, I was ſtruck with obſerving the quantity of leaves falling into the New River from the trees growing along its banks; at the ſame time reflecting, that in the whole of its courſe to Iſlington, the quantity muſt be ſuch as could not fail, by rotting in the current,

In large communities vice has ever abounded, though the wiſeſt legiſlators have uſed

current, to render the water leſs pleaſant and leſs wholeſome. Whether this circumſtance has occurred to you, I know not; but I am very certain it muſt have a conſiderable effect on the water; and it appears, from late experiments, that the ſun has much influence in meliorating the water. For both theſe reaſons I imagine you will think it expedient to give particular inſtructions to thoſe who have the immediate care of the river committed to them, to take care to have as many of the trees removed from the verge of the river, as poſſibly can be done, without creating too much oppoſition; to prevent, every where, any new ones from being planted ſo near the river, as to injure it either by their ſhade or the falling leaves. It is of no ſmall importance, and I doubt not but the matter will be properly attended to.

"Another circumſtance I have long wiſhed to communicate to you, which I think is an affair deſerving your conſideration: I need not mention the trouble you have annually on account of people bathing in the New River, and the diſguſt it gives to thoſe who are witneſſes of the facts, as well as to thoſe who drink the water and hear of it. The only means I can ſuggeſt to prevent this double miſchief, is to make it the intereſt of thoſe who do it, to do otherwiſe. It ſeems to me, that you would render an eſſential ſervice to the community at large, and to the proprietors, if you would either build a few bathing-houſes in convenient places, or encourage others to build them, where people might be

uſed endeavours to prevent and reſtrain it, by the encouragement of induſtry, and by the infliction of puniſhments on the commiſſion of crimes. Liberty, the birthright of man, the poſſeſſion of which he cannot

permitted to bathe at low prices; ſix-pence, three-pence, a penny each,' &c. Begin with a few, extend them as occaſion requires; ſome for men, ſome for women; ſome for boys, others for girls; and a peace officer or two to be on the ſpot, to ſee that no irregularities are committed. On vacant ſpots in the Spaw Fields, and other parts in the vicinage of populous places, they might be built conveniently, and let to advantage, limiting the tenants to low rates, for the accommodation of ſervants, and others, who cannot afford a ſhilling a time; and many for this reaſon go into ponds and rivers beyond their depth, to the loſs of ſeveral lives.

"As I am perſuaded that by this means you might prevent, or be enabled to puniſh with due ſeverity, tranſgreſſors, and do a public benefit, I have no doubt but you will excuſe me for ſuggeſting theſe conſiderations; in the execution of which I ſhall readily communicate every thing that has occurred to me reſpecting it.

"I am, with much reſpect,
"Your Friend,
"J. FOTHERGILL."

[Communicated to my valuable friend, John Scott, Eſq; of Amwell, well known in the literary world, by the late Amie Garnault, Eſq; of Bull's Croſs, Middleſex, who was an active member of the New River Company.]

be

be too ſolicitous to maintain, has, in moſt ſtates, been denied to criminal members of ſociety; and, in ſome inſtances alſo, where the breach of ſocial regulations has been the effect of unavoidable misfortune, rather than of actual vice: it has, however, always been the wiſh of humanity, that puniſhments could be ſo applied, as to be ſtrictly adequate to the degrees of offence. Certain it is, that the indiſcriminate confinement of many perſons together, is productive of two unhappy inconveniences; the firſt, as it affects the body, by generating infectious diſeaſes; and the other, as it contaminates the mind, by hardening the vicious, and, by their example, depraving thoſe not already abandoned. All Europe is acquainted with the benevolent, the godlike exertions of HOWARD, whoſe memory will ever be dear to the miſerable tenant of a priſon, and to whoſe labours that elegant ſtateſman, BURKE, has borne the moſt honourable teſtimony *.

This

* I cannot name this gentleman (Mr. Howard) without remarking, that his labours and writings have done much to open the eyes and hearts of mankind. He has viſited all Europe,—not to ſurvey the ſumptuouſneſs of palaces, or the ſtatelineſs of temples; not to make ac-

This HOWARD was the intimate friend of Dr. FOTHERGILL; they were the friends of humanity; and both were employed in leſſening the miſeries of human life, though in different ſpheres; but in attempting to prevent thoſe injuries and diſeaſes which human contagion produces, they united their labours. The legiſlature, juſtly alarmed at repeated inſtances of infection, which priſoners diſſeminated in courts when brought

curate meaſurements of the remains of ancient grandeur, nor to form a ſcale of the curioſity of modern art; not to collect medals, or to collate manuſcripts:—but to dive into the depths of dungeons; to plunge into the infection of hoſpitals; to ſurvey the manſions of ſorrow and pain; to take the gage and dimenſions of miſery, depreſſion, and contempt; to remember the forgotten, to attend to the neglected, to viſit the forſaken, and to compare and collate the diſtreſſes of all men in all countries. His plan is original; and it is as full of genius as it is of humanity. It was a voyage of diſcovery; a circumnavigation of charity. Already the benefit of his labour is felt, more or leſs, in every country: I hope he will anticipate his final reward, by ſeeing all its effects fully realized in his own. He will receive, not by retail, but in groſs, the reward of thoſe who viſit the priſoner; and he has ſo foreſtalled and monopolized this branch of charity, that there will be, I truſt, little room to merit by ſuch acts of benevolence hereafter. Burke's Speech at the Guildhall in Briſtol, 1780.

before

before their judges, was diſpoſed to receive the beſt advice for obviating ſuch baneful effects. Dr. FOTHERGILL and his friend were deſired to attend the Houſe of Commons; before which they gave ſuch information, as induced the legiſlature to paſs a Bill, intitled, "An Act for preſerving the "Health of Priſoners in Gaol, and pre-"venting the Gaol Diſtemper," anno 1774; and afterwards to recommend the building of detached or Penitentiary houſes *, as a mode of puniſhment calculated to reſtrain indolence and vice. Theſe two diſtinguiſhed perſons, with George Whatley, Eſq; were appointed, by the king, Commiſſioners for directing ſuitable buildings to carry into execution this new ſyſtem of correction.

The

* J. Clitherow, Eſq; the brother-in-law of the late Judge Blackſtone, in the preface to his Reports, containing memoirs of his life, attributes, in a great meaſure, the origin of theſe houſes to his amiable brother. "In theſe houſes," ſays he, "the convicts are to be ſeparately confined during the intervals of their labour, —debarred from all incentives to debauchery,—inſtructed in religion and morality,—and forced to work for the benefit of the public. Imagination cannot figure to itſelf a ſpecies of puniſhment, in which terror, benevolence, and reformation, are more happily blended together.

The firſt of theſe, our Preſident, did not live to ſee this uſeful deſign completed, though he had laboured aſſiduouſly in digeſting it, and had previouſly inſerted ſome uſeful remarks on the puniſhment of convicts, in the public prints, which I think too important to be omitted in his Works.

To obviate, however, and repreſs the firſt eruptions of vicious propenſity, is an object of the greateſt importance to the welfare and happineſs of the community. In ſome inſtances, more might be effected by lenient means than by ſevere puniſhments: one begets gratitude, and a deſire to retrieve reputation; the other hardens the mind, excites the paſſions of revenge and cruelty, and confirms a more abandoned profligacy

gether. What can be more dreadful to the riotous, the libertine, the voluptuous, the idle delinquent, than ſolitude, confinement, ſobriety, and conſtant labour? Yet what can be more truly beneficial? Solitude will awaken reflection; confinement will baniſh temptation; ſobriety will reſtore vigour; and labour will beget a habit of honeſt induſtry: while the aid of a religious inſtructor may implant new principles in his heart; and, when the date of his puniſhment is expired, will conduce to both his temporal and eternal welfare. Such a proſpect as this is ſurely well worth the trouble of an experiment."

of

of conduct. There are even vices, which ſeem to vibrate from a falſe ſhame, or miſtaken integrity: the impoveriſhed huſband, upon whom the ſuſtenance of a family depends, may privately ſteal, or boldly rob, from the cogency of domeſtic ſenſibility, without any vicious deſign to injure another: and ſuch individuals are not irreclaimable; for ſuch, to my knowledge, have been reclaimed.

In vitium ducit culpæ fuga——*

HOR. Ars Poet. l. xxxi.

But the moſt effectual barrier againſt corruption of manners, and the influence of vicious example, is an early and guarded education. As the ſun is to the external, ſo is learning to the intellectual eye; it enables the mind to diſtinguiſh truth from error, endows it with ſtability and ſtrength to combat vicious propenſities, and renders it ſuſceptible of enjoying the felicities of life, without adopting its follies, or entailing its miſeries. To promote this uſeful education, Dr. FOTHERGILL was

* ——whilſt one fault they ſhun,
Into its oppoſite extreme they run.

a liberal

a liberal advocate. How much he contributed towards the ſeminaries of learning inſtituted at Williamſburg, New York, and Philadelphia, I am not particularly aſſured; but if the extent of his liberality may be eſtimated by the degree of gratitude and reſpect with which his memory is revered throughout America, it muſt have been ample.

In the wide ſtream of public good, he did not overlook the ſituation of his own religious perſuaſion; where his influences were moſt powerful, and where congenial minds were more united in promoting his laudable views. He had long endeavoured to inſtitute an extenſive eſtabliſhment for the education of the children of the Society not in affluence; but nothing was effectually done, until, as Dr. Hird obſerves *, "by one of thoſe fortunate events, on "which hangs the fate of many great un-"dertakings, the whole of his deſign be-"came eaſy and practicable. On his return "from Cheſhire, through Yorkſhire, in "the year 1778, he did me the favour of "being my gueſt a few days, during which

* Affectionate Tribute, page 21, 22.

"time

" time he was viſited by many of his friends
" in thoſe parts. In one of theſe inter-
" views, the converſation turned on an in-
" ſtitution at Gilderſome, a ſmall eſtabliſh-
" ment for the education of poor children
" amongſt the Society: the Doctor was
" inquiring into its ſtate and management,
" and how far it might ſerve as a model
" for a larger undertaking: a juſt deſcrip-
" tion being given of it, with the follow-
" ing remark, that not only this, but all
" others, however laudable the motives
" from which they took their riſe, muſt
" fail of ſucceſs, without a conſtant ſuper-
" intending care and unremitting attention
" to the firſt great object of the inſtitution.
" This idea was exemplified by the then
" preſent ſtate of the Foundling Hoſpital
" at Ackworth; which, although originat-
" ing from the moſt humane principle,
" and erected at a vaſt expence, was, from
" repeated inattentions to the firſt deſign,
" in danger of dilapidation, and ready for
" public ſale. This relation ſtruck the
" Doctor forcibly; 'Why may not this,'
" ſaid he, 'ſerve the very purpoſe I am in
" purſuit of?' To be ſhort, the building,

" and

" and an eſtate of 80 acres of land, were " purchaſed, improved, and furniſhed by " ſubſcription. The Doctor ſet a generous " example by his own contribution, and " an endowment by his will in perpe- " tuity."

I have inſerted this quotation, as it explains the incident which brought Dr. FOTHERGILL acquainted with this eligible ſituation, reſpecting which he afterwards expreſſed his warmeſt approbation, in a Letter to a Friend, which I have preſerved in his Works. " Though I had not ſeen the building," he obſerves, " I had ſeen and conſidered a plan of the houſe, and learned from that, and from the report of many who had been on the ſpot, that the building, the ſituation, the healthfulneſs of the country, the plenty of proviſions, and the vicinity of many valuable friends, were ſuch, that if it could be purchaſed, and properly endowed, it might, in many reſpects, anſwer the intention of friends, and lay the ground-work of an uſeful and permanent eſtabliſhment. The children of friends not in affluent circumſtances, are the objects of Ackworth School; the children

dren of ſuch perſons, as muſt either provide for their offspring a very cheap education, or none at all. And there is great reaſon to believe, that the inability of many friends to make ſuch proviſion, or to find any means of obtaining a ſafe education, has been the occaſion of keeping their children at home, where it was impracticable to keep them at all times from corrupt company." The human mind, it has been obſerved, muſt have ſome object in view; and if virtue and propriety do not engage it, vice and folly will: whatever, therefore, buſies the mind, without corrupting it, has at leaſt this uſe, that it reſcues the day from idleneſs; and he that is never idle, will not often be vicious: and when habits of induſtry are confirmed by uſeful meditation, virtuous ſentiments will be more eaſily inculcated; for, if Virtue could be ſeen, ſhe muſt be loved; and if Truth could be heard, ſhe muſt be obeyed.

Oderunt peccare boni virtutis amore *.

HOR. Epiſt. 16. l. i. v. 52.

The ſucceſs of this School rewarded

* The good, for virtue's ſake, diſdain to ſin.

Dr.

Dr. FOTHERGILL's well-grounded expectations. That ingenious writer, whoſe authority I have repeatedly appealed to, is particularly acquainted with the preſent ſtate of this extenſive eſtabliſhment, as he reſides in its vicinity, and has thought it ſo far an object of his attention, as perſonally to viſit it; and his deſcription, communicated in 1781, affords a pleaſing proſpect of its utility and probable permanency; and I may add, that its improved ſtate, at the preſent time, affords further confirmation of its ſucceſs. "There are," he obſerves*, "above three hundred children, "of both ſexes, under the roof, furniſhed "with all the neceſſary conveniences and "comforts of life, properly cloathed, and "educated in every branch of knowledge "ſuitable for the ſtation in which it is "preſumed they may be placed. And, to

* Dr. Hird's Affectionate Tribute, page 22, 23.—I am ſorry to add here, that this excellent phyſician and agreeable companion did not long ſurvive this Tribute to his honoured friend and relation. At the time of his deceaſe, he was phyſician to the Leeds Infirmary; in which office he has been ſucceeded by my friend and univerſity colleague, Dr. Walker, a phyſician of diſtinguiſhed abilities and humanity.

"the

" the ſatisfaction of every benevolent heart,
" it may be truly ſaid, that the inſtitution
" is at preſent in a moſt flouriſhing ſtate,
" fully anſwering the deſign of its foun-
" ders; being conducted under the care of
" a number of choſen guardians, of ability,
" and of exemplary conduct, with an ex-
" actneſs of order, decency, and propriety,
" extremely ſtriking, and perfectly pleaſ-
" ing to all who have viſited it, though
" not of the ſame Society.—The children
" are taught habits of regularity, of de-
" cency, and reſpectful ſubordination to
" their ſuperiors; of forbearance, affection,
" and kindneſs towards each other; and of
" religious reverence towards their Maker;
" and, I may farther add, thoſe habits of
" ſilence and recollection, taught and prac-
" tiſed in the ancient ſchools of philo-
" ſophy, inculcated in the Scriptures, and
" moſt emphatically called, *the true door of*
" *entrance into the ſchool of wiſdom.*"

If Dr. FOTHERGILL's life had not been diſtinguiſhed by a ſeries of illuſtrious actions, this noble inſtitution at Ackworth was alone ſufficient to endear his name to

poſterity, by conferring upon ſubſequent generations the means of an uſeful education, which places out the virtues of youth to the beſt uſury, where the intereſt is, of all others, the moſt productive and permanent; for education, when it works on an amiable diſpoſition, draws out to view every latent virtue and perfection, which might otherwiſe lie dormant, or remain obſcured; for not to have reaſon, and to have it uſeleſs and unemployed, is nearly the ſame. This public action was conſiſtent with the tenor of his life, and conſtituted one uniform ſyſtem of philanthropy, where the heart melted with benevolence, and where the hand ſhowered liberality*.

Gratum eſt, quod patriæ civem, populoque dediſti,
Sic facis ut patriæ ſit idoneus, utilis agris,

* It muſt afford ſatisfaction to every friend of humanity to know, that in the eſtabliſhment of Ackworth School, many congenial diſpoſitions aided Dr. FOTHERGILL whilſt he was living, and perſevere to promote it ſince his death. In David Barclay particularly, whoſe name I have already mentioned, equal ardour is exerted, as there was before equal philanthropy and beneficence.

Utilis——pacis rebus agendis.
Plurimum enim intererit, quibus artibus, et
quibus hunc tu
Moribus inſtituas——

JUV. Sat. xiv. l. 70.

In the days of ſuperſtition and ignorance, when perſons of extenſive literature were deemed extraordinary phenomena, whoever excelled in letters was diſtinguiſhed from the common claſs of mankind, and viewed with that veneration which ſuperior knowledge and endowment inſpire; but as literature was diffuſed, men of letters having many equals, the peculiar diſtinction or pre-eminence of primæval times was leſs diſcernible. In the profeſſors of phyſic, at preſent, not only the learning of the ſchools, but ſcience in general, is a part of medical accompliſhment. In an extent of ſcience, equally diffuſe and unlimited, it would be impracticable, as well as indelicate, to draw a compariſon of living characters; nor could a certain criterion be deduced from ſuppoſitious reputation, which muſt always be partial: to eſtimate it by pecuniary emolument would be inade-

quate, becauſe the product of the profeſſors of phyſic cannot be accurately known; and if it could, the degree of practice could not thence be aſcertained, as the liberality of individuals not only varies, but the moderation likewiſe of the faculty in accepting gratuities. That Dr. FOTHERGILL acquired much in the line of his profeſſion, we know by the amplitude of his generoſity; but the exact extent he never diſcloſed. Calculations ſometimes have been formed from the time that has been devoted to buſineſs: with individuals, whoſe moments are conſtantly employed, he will accompliſh the moſt who is the beſt œconomiſt of time; and no time can certainly be better employed, than that which is devoted to ſick and helpleſs friends. But were medical character to be decided by the œconomy of time, no man had a more decided claim to pre-eminence than Dr. FOTHERGILL: he made every moment important, by a wonderful regularity in his manners and in all his concerns, and his domeſtics had acquired a ſimilar punctuality; and thus, by general order and ſyſtem, not a moment

moment ſeemed with him to be loſt in relays, nor in his movements from one object to another. If ſome people live out half their days without numbering one, he eſtimated time too highly to ſay with the Roman Titus, *Diem perdidi.* If the length of time is to be meaſured by the quick ſucceſſion of ideas, no man lived longer every day, or I may indiſputably add, lived more uſefully.

Ampliat ætatis ſpatium ſibi vir bonus, hoc eſt
Vivere bis, vitâ poſſe priore frui.

MART.

Sometimes indeed it happens, that phyſicians have acquired much city practice, without any extent of reputation out of the vicinity of their reſidence; but with reſpect to Dr. FOTHERGILL, it may be ſafely aſſerted, that if he had not attained the firſt rank in town, he certainly had the moſt general reputation through the kingdom and colonies, of any contemporary phyſician. Whenever he went down to Lea-hall, or to any diſtance out of town, he was as conſtantly intercepted by a concourſe of Valetudinarians, who had found means to get

information of his route. In the year 1769, my excellent guardian, his brother Samuel, was indiſpoſed during his viſit in London; and as he was deſirous of returning homewards, I was requeſted to accompany him to Lea-hall, and the Doctor propoſed to follow us down ſoon after. I was then a ſtudent of medicine; but I could not avoid remarking the numerous applications made to us to aſcertain the time of his paſſing through different ſtages. I think he once informed me, that he had upwards of fifty applications at one place in his journey: I have been his Amanuenſis repeatedly for at leaſt twenty patients at one ſitting. At home, indeed, the preſent generation will not require to be told, that he had the confidence of the public as a phyſician; of his patients, likewiſe, as a near and confidential friend; and of the literary, as a reſpectful aſſociate. He was choſen, in 1754, a Fellow of the Royal College of Phyſicians at Edinburgh, as he had early been of the Medical Society* inſtituted there, and ſince incorporated

* Near fifty years ago, ſeveral ſtudents of medicine formed this Society, for their mutual inſtruction and advancement

incorporated by royal authority; and in 1763, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society

advancement in their ſtudies. "Every ſtudent of a certain ſtanding, who diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his diligence, capacity, and conduct, was initiated into this little aſſembly. Here the opinions of the ancients, of their contemporaries, nay the doctrines of their maſters, were frequently diſcuſſed; and two of the members were always charged with the taſk of providing inſtruction and entertainment for the next meeting of the Society. Queſtions, no doubt, were here diſputed and decided, which long experience would have declined. But it exerciſed their faculties, gave them both ſides of arguments, taught them to doubt, and habituated them to obſervation." Dr. FOTHERGILL's Life of Dr. Ruſſell, page 367 in the edition of his Works.

When one conſiders the utility, as well as high reputation of a Society, begun and conducted by ſtudents, curioſity is naturally excited to date the commencement of this ſingular and uſeful inſtitution; which I am enabled to do, by the information of one of its firſt and moſt reſpectable members. In the latter end of Auguſt 1734, the under-written Gentlemen *, then fellow ſtudents

* *Dr. Cleghorn.*
Dr. Cuming.
Dr. Ruſſell.
Dr. Hamilton, ſon to the then Profeſſor of Divinity at Edinburgh; who having finiſhed his ſtudies, took his Degree there, publiſhing on that occaſion a Theſis, *De Morbis Oſſium.*—He afterwards ſettled at Annapolis, in North Carolina, where he died many years ago.

Society of London; and was one of the earlieſt members of the American Philoſophical Society, inſtituted at Philadelphia.

Thus

ſtudents in the Schools of Medicine at Edinburgh, who had been long familiarly acquainted, and entertained a reciprocal regard for each other, after having employed themſelves, during the three preceding weeks, in the diſſection of a body in the Anatomical Theatre, agreed to ſpend a ſocial evening together at a tavern.—After ſupper it was propoſed, by one of the company, that this little Society ſhould meet once a fortnight, early in the evening, at their reſpective lodgings; that a diſſertation, in Engliſh or Latin, on ſome medical ſubject, at the choice of the Society, ſhould be compoſed, and read at each of theſe meetings, to which ſuch objections as occurred to the reſt of the company ſhould be made, which the author was to obviate in the beſt manner he could. This propoſal was cordially aſſented to by all preſent; and Dr. *Cuming* was appointed by the other members to prepare a diſſertation for their firſt meeting, on the ſigns, cauſes, and method of cure of the *Rabies Canina:* this he accordingly did, and read

Mr. Archibald Taylor, brother to a phyſician of that name at Edinburgh; an ingenious young man, who died a few years after in the Eaſt Indies.

Dr. James Kennedy; who after having taken his Degree in Phyſic, was invited to accompany a young gentleman of fortune in the Tour of Europe.—On his return home, after having ſpent three years in this employment, he purchaſed a commiſſion in the army, and was for many years ſenior captain of dragoons.—Why *Doctor* FOTHERGILL was not aſſociated into this little band, cannot now be recollected; but he was known to, and highly eſteemed by, every one of the members.

to

Thus conſpicuous as a phyſician in the firſt city in Europe, his character could not but be known on the continent, where ſcience is cultivated with the ſame commendable ardour. Linnæus, the late botanical luminary of Upſal, had diſtinguiſhed a ſpecies of Polyandria Digynia by the name of Fothergilla Gardeni. In 1776 he was choſen an honorary member of the Royal Society of Medicine at Paris; for men of true ſcience, of every nation, in the tumult of empires, are united in endeavouring to render mankind wiſer and happier; they are always of one party; and the French, whoſe literary exertions reflect honour on the na-

to the Society on the 20th of December following. *Dr. Ruſſell* followed in one, *De Gonorrhœa virulenta:* then came *Dr. Cleghorn*, *De Epilepſia*; *Kennedy*, *De Fluxu Menſium*, &c.—This aſſociation continued during that winter, and the enſuing ſpring; but, in the ſummer of 1735, the members of this little Society were diſperſed, and *Cleghorn* alone remained to continue, with his reſpected FOTHERGILL and ſome others, this aſſociation during the ſubſequent winter. This was the humble and fortuitous commencement of a Society, that has ſince become highly reſpectable by its obvious utility, and the names of many learned and eminent phyſicians which it records in the liſt of its members, and it is now incorporated by Royal Charter.

tion

tion and on the age, inſtituted, in 1776, a Royal Medical Society; and, to render it more extenſively beneficial, they have choſen honorary or correſponding members from the ingenious of all nations. Of the number in this kingdom, whoſe characters acquired the ſuffrages of this Society, was our late Preſident: their addreſs to him upon that occaſion is marked with a ſpirit of true philoſophy, which is not reſtricted within the limits of empires; and its inſertion here muſt be acceptable to every liberal mind.

"* DOCTOR ILLUSTRISSIME,

"QUAS hodie conſociationis litteras offert tibi Regia Societas Medica Pariſienſis, ego tantò libentius ad te mitto, quod dulciſſimum et utiliſſimum epiſtolare commercium nobis procul dubio concedes, quodque mihi

* "ILLUSTRIOUS DOCTOR,

"I the more willingly ſend you the letters of admiſſion into membership, which the Royal Medical Society of Paris this day offers you, becauſe we ſhall doubtleſs gain a moſt agreeable and uſeful literary correſpondence with you, and becauſe ſuch an aſſociation and

mihi jucundiſſima maximè que proficua talis erit confraternitas. Inſtitutionis edictæ diſpoſitiones, inauguralemque ſimul orationem benignè cum hac epiſtolâ recipias velim. Plurimarum jam Academiarum codices condecorat immortale nomen tuum; ſed in Academiâ ferè medicâ conſcribi à conſodalibus ſummæ exiſtimationis teſtimonia recipere, tua famâ non indignum fore credidimus; ego que præſertim, vividiſſime gaudeo, quod locus ille quem in noſtra Societate mihi concedit Rex Chriſtianiſſimus Galliarum, frequentiæ meæ totius ergà te obſervantiæ ſpecimina redditurus ſit, iſtaſque multiplicabit

and brotherhood will be extremely pleaſant, and particularly uſeful to me. The edicts of the inſtitution, the forms of it, and the inaugural oration, I wiſh you kindly to receive, together with this letter. Your immortal name is already an honour to the regiſters of many academies; but to be enrolled a member of an academy almoſt wholly medical, by the Fellows of it, and to receive the higheſt teſtimonies of their eſteem, we thought would not be unworthy of your reputation; and I eſpecially feel a very ſenſible pleaſure in it, becauſe the place aſſigned me in our Society by the Moſt Chriſtian King, will enable me to render frequent proofs of my entire eſteem for you, and will multiply thoſe

multiplicabit occaſiones, in quibus me dicam ſemper,

" Doctor illuſtriſſime,
" Obſequentiſſimum tui ſervum
" et cultorem,

LUTELIÆ PARISIARUM, " VICQ. D'AZYR."
die menſis Decembris 1776.

" P. S. Tantam tibi offert vovetque Regia Societas ut quales illi correſpondentes, numerandos eſſe in tua provinciâ judicabitis, tales acceptura ſit et libentiſſimè pro ſuis ſit habitura: ſi ergo inſtitutionis noſtræ fructus et commoda augere non recuſes omnia quæcunque Societatis gratiâ facies, jucundiſſima

thoſe opportunities in which I ſhall always ſubſcribe myſelf,

" Illuſtrious Doctor,
" Your moſt devoted ſervant
" and admirer,
" VICQ. D'AZYR.

" P. S. The Royal Society places ſo much confidence in you, that the perſons you ſhall judge proper for their correſpondents, within the ſphere of your acquaintance, they will receive, and very readily eſteem them as ſuch: if, therefore, you do not refuſe to augment the fruit and advantages of our inſtitution, we ſhall eſteem whatever you do for the good of the Society

diſſima et rectiſſima reputabimus. Age igitur, co-operatores inter amicos doctiſſimos que collegas quorum merita non noſcimus, elige nobis, optima quæ detexerunt, quæque detexiſti ipſe ſedulo communica medicæque correſpondentiæ per te creſcat utilitas et amplitudo, nos conſocios, eidem philoſophiæ ſtudentes, ejuſdemque veritatis amantes et æmulos reddat nova confederatio. Seſe noſcunt à longo tempore cæteri viri Litterati mediantibus academiis, medici vero nullo ferè nexu junguntur, celeberrimorum que tantum vix nomina callemus. Fiamus autem mutuis epiſtolis ex omnibus Europæ finibus

as highly agreeable, and to be depended upon. Let me entreat you then to chuſe out for us aſſiſtants and co-partners amongſt the moſt learned of your friends and colleagues whoſe merits we do not know, and diligently to communicate their beſt diſcoveries, and what you yourſelf have diſcovered, that ſo the uſefulneſs and extent of medical correſpondence may be encreaſed, and a true confederacy render us brethren, ſtudents of the ſame philoſophy, and zealous lovers of the ſame truths. The living Literati in other arts and ſciences have for a long time, by means of academies, been acquainted with each other; phyſicians are ſcarcely connected by any tie, the bare names of the moſt illuſtrious among them being hardly known. But let us eſtabliſh correſpondents by mutual letters in every part of Europe. And laſtly,

finibus correſpondentes. Dein utinam, amici et quidquid eveniat uniti: medicina que tandem ſit una ut Hippocrates, nec amplius, ut eſt hodie multiplex. Hæc ſunt quæ ſperat à te academica illa Societas, quam *tuam* dicere poſſumus quippe qui Socius ab eâ jam à plurimis menſibus denunciatus fuiſti."

Dr. FOTHERGILL had now attained the zenith of medical reputation: in national concerns, or public calamities from diſeaſe, his opinion was ſought after, and as uniformly adopted. When the Britiſh Houſe of Commons was informed of the dreadful fatality of the gaol diſtemper, among the French and Spaniſh priſoners confined in Wincheſter, Dr. FOTHERGILL's opinion was inſtantly taken upon the ſubject, and he recommended Dr. J. Carmichael Smith to

laſtly, I wiſh that we may be friends, and united together, whatever may happen*: medicine then would be uniform, and but one in all places, as Hippocrates wiſhed it to be, and not as it is at preſent, divided into parties. Theſe are the things this academic Society wiſhes to promote, and which we may now call your Society, ſeeing you have been declared a Fellow of it for ſome months."

* Probably referring to the commencement of the war.

ſuperintend

ſuperintend the priſon, to avert, if poſſible, the ſpreading contagion;—the ſingular ſucceſs of whoſe attendance, whilſt it did honour to Dr. Smith's medical knowledge, reflected no leſs upon Dr. FOTHERGILL's diſcernment in the choice of an able phyſician; as the following report from the Office for Sick and Wounded Seamen will fully juſtify.

A Weekly

A Weekly progreſſive State of the Sickneſs and Mortality among the Spaniſh Priſoners, confined in the King's Houſe at Wincheſter; from the firſt Appearance of the Jail Diſtemper, until the 8th of July 1780.

Date of Weekly Accounts.	Number of Spaniſh Priſoners.		
	In Cuſtody.	Sick.	Dead.
March 26, 1780	1247	60	1
April 2, ——	1243	106	4
9, ——	1475	150	10
16, ——	1457	172	18
23, ——	1433	142	21
30, ——	1412	171	21
May 7, ——	1388	191	25
14, ——	1351	197	27
21, ——	1523	205	30
28, ——	1494	226	31
* June 3, ——	1461	262	33
10, ——	1437	212	26
17, ——	1426	173	9
24, ——	1420	167	5
July 1, ——	1414	143	5
8, ——	1433	122	2

* The time of Dr. Carmichael Smith's going to Wincheſter.—It would prove highly uſeful to the public, were this ingenious phyſician to communicate his method of treatment, which was attended with ſuch obvious ſucceſs. A priſoner is an object of compaſſion in every point of view.

Long

Long before this period, it is well known that the Empreſs of Ruſſia, with a ſpirit of freedom and reſolution, which added luſtre to her dignified ſtation, reſolved to receive the ſmall-pox by inoculation; and having heard of the Suttons as celebrated in this department, ordered her ambaſſador at the Britiſh court to ſend an experienced perſon to Peterſburgh to perform the operation. When this order arrived, Dr. FOTHERGILL was conſulted; and by his influence, and by his alone, the life of the empreſs was entruſted to a phyſician (Doctor, afterwards Baron Dimſdale) whoſe experience entitled him to this diſtinguiſhed employment. When Dr. FOTHERGILL related this circumſtance to me, he mentioned it merely as a matter of confidential information, without appearing ſenſible of the influence and importance of his extenſive reputation.

But a life thus ſpent in the conſcientious diſcharge of every duty, and the uniform practice of every virtue, could not ſhield him from the miſrepreſentations of envy, malevolence, and avarice, as the accuſations of two perſons, at different periods of time, amply proved. Thoſe who have been ac-

quainted with Dr. FOTHERGILL, during the laſt ten or twelve years of his life, muſt know that I allude to the proſecution commenced againſt him by one, for a ſuppoſed injury; and to the partiality of which he was accuſed by the other, in adjuſting a difference between him and a reſpectable Baronet. Of theſe tranſactions it is unneceſſary here to enter into a minute detail: the decree, pronounced on the former caſe by that learned and ſagacious judge, the Lord Chief Juſtice of England, moſt honourably juſtified the character of our late Preſident from every imputation of wrong*; and his own pen † not only entirely vindicated him from every aſperſion of partiality and injuſtice thrown upon him by his accuſer, but alſo exhibited moſt exemplary inſtances of candour, liberality of ſentiment, and generoſity.

Perſons, whoſe ſtated employments preclude the enjoyment of leiſure, naturally acquire a habit of brevity in the diſpatch of their concerns: in converſation they apply

* See Gentleman's Magazine, November 1781.

† Introductory Remarks on the Preface of Parkinſon's Journal of a Voyage.

immediately

immediately to the ſubject of diſcuſſion; in writing, they compreſs much in a ſmall ſpace. In addition to this kind of compulſive diſpatch, acquired by the urgency of important tranſactions, Dr. FOTHERGILL poſſeſſed a remarkable quickneſs of perception; and, what is unuſual with vivacity of mind, united ſolidity of judgment. Thoſe who did not perſonally know him, muſt form the ſame opinion of him, from the diſplay of genius and ſagacity in his early publications. Some of theſe I have already adverted to; and to them I might add his early eſſays in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1751, and the three ſubſequent years.

His pieces in the Medical Enquiries, a publication which commenced in June 1757, and is ſtill continued, have been read by the Faculty univerſally, and always with approbation, as they contain facts that cannot be too well known; and wherever they are known, they will be adopted, with as little exception, at leaſt, as can be ſuppoſed to ariſe in an improving art. If his language was not always minutely correct, probably owing to want of time, it was eaſy and fluent, and, what in ſuch compoſitions is

more valuable, it was accurately deſcriptive.

His epiſtolary writing was inſtructive and ſprightly. As he was not confined to the didactic ſolidity of medical diſquiſitions, where knowledge is paſſive, and genius ſuperfluous, and where facts and experiments, rather than ornament and elegance, are the leading objects, his language was leſs reſtrained; it was more brilliant, but leſs correct; it was more varied and amuſing, and at the ſame time it was chaſte and inſtructive; and, like his converſation, the ſame ſentiments were conveyed, in a livelineſs of colouring and frankneſs of expreſſion, that in any other point of view might have afforded no emotion of pleaſure, or proof of ſuperior endowment. There was indeed a charm in his converſe and addreſs, as hath been ingeniouſly remarked, that affected ſome with a tranſport of admiration, and commanded the high regard and opinion of thoſe who employed him; whilſt, by a diſcreet uniformity of conduct, he ſo fixed the capriciouſneſs of mankind, that he was not apt to forfeit the eſteem he had once acquired. His mind was of that happy verſatility,

ſatility, that he could eaſily break off from important concerns, and enter into a familiar and pleaſant converſation; with all the indifference of a man of leiſure; and as eaſily reſume the variety of his ſerious engagements, as if they had never been interrupted *.

Hilariſque, tamen cum pondere, virtus.
STAT.

As the higheſt ſtations are expoſed to peculiar inconveniences, ſo the brighteſt genius is not unfrequently clouded with a counterpart: the mind that is endowed with the quickeſt perception, whilſt intereſted in multifarious concerns, is not only liable to acquire a habit of deciding haſtily, but a tenaciouſneſs of its deciſions. In this epitome of Dr. FOTHERGILL's character, I have endeavoured to delineate the outlines with impartiality, to appreciate his faults as well as his virtues: and, though the brilliancy of the latter hath ſhone through the clouds of the former, I conſider this promptitude of adopting an opinion,

* Dr. Thompſon's Life and Character of Dr. FOTHERGILL, page 29, 30.

and tenacious retention of it, as the moſt cenſurable part of a life (ſo far as I know, and I knew it well) otherwiſe blameleſs. Perfection is ſcarcely the lot of humanity; and in extenuation of this diſpoſition it might be argued, that whilſt he formed a haſty, his ſolidity of judgment prevented a wrong, determination: like the ballaſt of a ſhip, it kept ſteady the ſails that were expoſed to the ſudden guſts of a ſtorm. This failing, however, ſuch as it was, has been ſometimes remarked by the Faculty, in conſultations with the Doctor, and remarked with cenſure; and whoever has been honoured and conſulted for a ſeries of years as a medical oracle, muſt have attained that experience, which affords the beſt preſumption for firmneſs of opinion: but were the cenſure well founded, happy is the man, and happy the patients of that phyſician, who paſſeth through life with ſo much undeviating rectitude!

In this place, I cannot but gratefully recall to mind how much I owed to my deceaſed friend, when I left Europe to reviſit my native iſland: it muſt be admitted, that though after ſeventeen years abſence, I returned

turned to the boſom of my relations and of my friends; yet, as a medical man, my character was ſolely reflected from the patronage of Dr. FOTHERGILL, whoſe name was as familiar throughout North America, and the Antilles, as in London.

With reſpect to political affairs, as connected with thoſe of North America, he had long formed a decided opinion, "Whether we look at the well-being and content of near two millions of Engliſh ſubjects on that continent, deſcended from and connected with ourſelves; or weigh the effects which their diſcontent and unhappineſs muſt unavoidably produce on this country, ſcarce a more important object can preſent itſelf to an Engliſhman."

Without entering into the cauſes and effects of a conteſt, which it is now our irretrievable misfortune to lament in vain, it was from its commencement the ſtrenuous advice of Dr. FOTHERGILL, to treat our trans-atlantic brethren with a leniency due to fellow-ſubjects, whoſe rights and privileges being the ſame, entitled them to ſhare in the proſperity and the enjoyments of the whole empire. "If we enquire," he ob-

ſerved, "into the conduct of the wiſeſt "ſtates to their diſtant colonies, we ſhall "find it always to have been, to treat them "with kindneſs and indulgence, to engage "them to look back to the mother country "with duty and affection, and to recom-"penſe the protection they have enjoyed "by the produce of their labours, their "commerce, and, when needed, their aſ-"ſiſtance. We meet not with many in-"ſtances, comparatively, even of diſtant "conquered countries revolting, till cauſes "of ſtrong diſguſt had ſown the ſeeds of "diſcontent, and ſucceeding acts of op-"preſſion and injuſtice had ripened them "into rebellion."

"Colonies ſprung from Britain," he obſerved, "will bear much; but it is to "be remembered, that they are the ſons of "freedom; and what they have been early "taught to look upon as virtue in their "anceſtors, will not ſoon be forgotten by "themſelves: nay, they will the ſooner "be apt to vindicate their wrongs."

As he was of opinion, that whatever the motives of their migration may have been, the effects of this migration have undoubtedly

edly been ſignally beneficial to this country; and therefore, if any diſtinction were to be made, a particular diſtinction was due to theſe diſtant ſubjects, whilſt harſh and ungracious treatment would make them deſirous of forgetting that they are of Engliſh deſcent, leſſen their duty and allegiance, and induce them impatiently to look forward to that independency, which their ſituation favours; and this the more eagerly, in proportion to the prejudices they have imbibed againſt a government they think oppreſſive.

Unfortunately for this country, thoſe meaſures which the Americans deemed oppreſſive, were eagerly purſued; and what Dr. FOTHERGILL, and moſt men who were acquainted with the continent and its inhabitants, early predicted, he lived to ſee realized.

Uniform as he was in opinion reſpecting the political objects which ſo long convulſed the empire, he was either miſrepreſented or not underſtood. He was ſo accurately informed of the power of America, and with the wiſhes of ſome of the principal of its inhabitants, that, long before the fatal

tranſaction

tranſaction at Lexington, he foretold, as probable conſequences of the projected meaſures, many of the great events which time has ſince evolved. If a man is cenſurable for the accompliſhment of his predictions, Dr. FOTHERGILL was certainly ſo; but were ſuch reaſoning admiſſible, all the great characters of ſacred and general hiſtory, whom we have been hitherto accuſtomed to reverence, muſt fall under a ſimilar predicament: if their ſagacity, or their ſuperior information, had enlarged their views, and enabled them with preciſion to eſtimate the reſult of certain actions, the rulers to whom they communicated their obſervations, and who, poſſeſſing the power, but being perhaps otherwiſe informed, did not take adequate precautions to prevent what had been foretold, have been deemed anſwerable for the event. I can venture to aſſert, that no man laboured more anxiouſly than Dr. FOTHERGILL did, to prevent what he predicted as eventual from the proſecution of certain meaſures—the diſmemberment of the empire.

As he had acceſs, by his profeſſion, to families of the firſt diſtinction, he embraced occaſional

occaſional opportunities of ſuggeſting his opinion of the prevailing ſyſtem of politics, and the effects moſt likely to reſult from the proſecution of it: but although his advice was not adopted, I do not hence infer that the governing powers were cenſurable; my intention in introducing theſe obſervations, is to elucidate Dr. FOTHERGILL's political conduct reſpecting the conteſt between Great Britain and America, and clear it from the miſrepreſentations of perſons leſs intimately acquainted with him; and this affords a ſufficient apology for communicating to the public the following narrative of facts, ſtated from authentic papers that are now in my hands; leaving to the deciſion of the public, whether Dr. FOTHERGILL did not act the part of a true patriot, and a real friend of the conſtitution.

In the latter end of the year 1774, previous to the departure of Dr. Franklin out of this kingdom, an intimate friend of Dr. FOTHERGILL being in company with a nobleman of great political experience, between whom the converſation turning on

the critical ſituation of the American colonies, he preſſed this gentleman to attempt a compromiſe with Dr. Franklin, before his intended departure; and he accordingly undertook it, from a cordial wiſh to promote a permanent reconciliation between the two countries; on this account he immediately applied to Dr. FOTHERGILL, who heartily united in this undertaking; and they mutually invited Dr. Franklin to a conference the ſame evening, and Dr. Franklin as readily accepted the invitation. This triumvirate, zealous for the welfare of both nations, devoted many hours to the important ſubjects of deliberation; and, after much diſcuſſion, it was mutually agreed, that they ſhould meet again on the ſucceeding evening, when Dr. Franklin ſhould commit to paper ſuch a conciliatory plan as he conceived America had a right to expect, and that the other two, as Engliſhmen, ſhould then object to ſuch claims as they might judge Great Britain ought not to grant.

On the appointed evening, Dr. Franklin produced the following propoſitions (ſee A.); and thoſe lines which appear in italics were

were objected to by Dr. FOTHERGILL and his colleague, and which Dr. Franklin gave up, and ſuffered to be expunged.

In this ſtate a copy was taken, and imparted for negociation; and the anſwer was, that the propoſitions were ſuch as appeared to demand too much; and in conſequence ſeveral attempts were made to reconcile the ſubjects of contention: but as the 12th article of the propoſitions was inſiſted on by Dr. Franklin, though many of the others were acceded to, the negociation was broken off, and in a ſhort time afterwards Dr. Franklin embarked for America.

The man of urbanity, who reflects upon the fatal carnage of 100,000 victims of war, drawn from the loom, and from rural tillage; and with it the fruitleſs expenditure of 100 millions of money, muſt unavoidably regret, that the laudable exertions of the phyſician and the patriot were thus unhappily fruſtrated. Seeing, however, though diſtantly, the impending danger, he perſevered in the ſame line of conduct, and renewed his endeavours to ſtop the effuſion of blood, and to reconcile the contending

tending parties, as will appear by the following letter, marked (B), which he wrote in 1775 to a noble Lord.

In 1780, Dr. Franklin wrote to Dr. FOTHERGILL's colleague the ſubſequent letter, marked (C), which I introduce to corroborate the above narrative.

In the preceding year Dr. FOTHERGILL publiſhed a pamphlet, intitled, "An Engliſh Freeholder's Addreſs," which I have preſerved in his Works; it contains ſentiments further explanatory of his political character; ſentiments that will ever be revered.

(A.)

HINTS *for Converſation, upon the Subject of Terms that may probably produce a* durable *Union between Great Britain and her Colonies*.*

1ſt. THE tea deſtroyed, to be paid for.

2d. The tea duty act to be repealed, *and all the duties that have been received upon*

* The Editor conceives the following propoſitions to contain all the grievances comprized in the petition of Congreſs to the King, brought over by Governor Penn in 1775.

it

it to be repaid into the treaſuries of the ſeveral provinces from which it has been collected.

3d. The acts of navigation to be all re-enacted in the ſeveral Colonies.

4th. A naval officer, appointed by the crown, to reſide in each colony, to ſee that theſe acts are obſerved.

5th. All the acts reſtraining manufactures in the Colonies, to be re-conſidered.

6th. All duties ariſing on the acts for regulating trade with the Colonies, to be for the public uſe of the reſpective Colonies, and paid into their treaſuries.

7th. The collectors and cuſtom-houſe officers to be appointed by each governor, and not ſent from England; the preſent officers to be continued only during each governor's pleaſure.

8th. In conſideration of the Americans maintaining their own peace eſtabliſhment, and of the monopoly Britain is to have of their commerce, no requiſition to be made from them in time of peace.

9th. In time of war, on requiſition made by the king, with conſent of parliament, every colony ſhall raiſe money by ſome ſuch

ſuch rule or proportion as the following: viz. If Britain, on account of the war, pays as high as 3*s.* in the pound to its land-tax, then the Colonies to add to their laſt general provincial tax a ſum equal to (ſuppoſe ¼) thereof; and if Britain, on the ſame account, pays 4*s.* in the pound, then the Colonies to add to their ſaid tax a ſum equal to (ſuppoſe ½) thereof; which additional tax is to be granted to the king, and to be employed in raiſing and paying men for land or ſea ſervice, furniſhing proviſions, tranſports, or for ſuch other purpoſes as the king ſhall require and direct: and though no colony may contribute leſs, each may add as much by voluntary grant as they ſhall think proper.

10th. No troops to enter, and quarter in any colony, but with the conſent of its legiſlature.

11th. Caſtle William to be reſtored to the province of the Maſſachuſets Bay.

12th. The late Maſſachuſets and Quebec acts to be repealed, and a free government granted to Canada *.

* Theſe acts include the Boſton port bill; the alteration of the charters of the Maſſachuſets Bay; and, the extenſion the limits of Canada.

13th. The extenſion of the act of Henry VIII. concerning treaſon, to the colonies, to be formally diſclaimed by parliament.

14th. The American Admiralty courts reduced to the ſame powers they have in England, and the acts relative to them to be re-enacted in America.

15th. All Judges in the king's colony governments to be appointed during good behaviour, the Colonies fixing ample and equally durable ſalaries: or, if it is thought beſt that the king ſhould ſtill continue to appoint during pleaſure, then the colony aſſemblies to grant ſalaries during their pleaſure, as has always heretofore been the practice.

16th. The Governors alſo to be ſupported by voluntary grants of the aſſemblies, as heretofore.

17*th. All power of internal legiſlation in the Colonies, to be diſclaimed by parliament.*

The following letter, which covered that above referred to, marked (B), evinces the pains Dr. FOTHERGILL took to prevent that diſunion of the empire he had predicted and feared; and upon this ac-

count, ſhort as it is, I inſert it here: it was addreſſed, under cover, to his colleague in the tranſaction with Dr. Franklin.

"DEAR FRIEND,

"I CAME home laſt night at ten o'clock extremely fatigued. I could not forbear giving, perhaps, a very ſtrong proof of it. If the encloſed remarks are worthy of the leaſt notice, or any part of them, I with we could ſee one another this morning, any time before nine o'clock.

J. FOTHERGILL."

8th of the 10th mo. 1775.

(B.)

"THE following ſketch will ſhew rather my wiſhes than my hopes, of ſeeing the moſt certain, ſpeedy, and honourable means of effecting the propoſed meaſures.

"To ſend as ſpeedily as poſſible ſome perſon or perſons, on whom Government may rely, and who are not unknown to ſome of the leaders of the Congreſs, and on whoſe character and probity they may have ſome dependence, to propoſe to them,

"That

"That an act ſhall be paſſed this ſeſſions, virtually repealing all the blameable acts, by declaring that the Colonies ſhall be conſidered as being governed by the ſame laws, or placed in the ſame ſituation as they were in in the year 1762.

"That in conſequence of this declaration, if accepted by the Congreſs, the ſame perſons ſhall have inſtructions to the commander in chief to ceaſe all hoſtilities.

"That a general amneſty ſhall be declared, all priſoners releaſed, the provincial forces be diſbanded, and the ports reciprocally opened for both countries.

"That theſe preliminaries being fixed, inſtructions ſhall be ſent to the ſeveral governors, to convene the aſſemblies, and require them to chuſe two or more delegates, to meet a proper number of commiſſioners from England, at New York, and there to ſettle the due limits of authority on this ſide, and ſubmiſſion on theirs. The ſword will never ſettle it as it ought to be. Submiſſion to force, will endure no longer than ſuperior force commands ſubmiſſion; —intereſt only can make it perpetual; and it is the intereſt of Britain that the union

ſhould be perpetual, be the preſent ſacrifice what it may.

" The mode of proceeding in the union between England and Scotland may be adopted, ſo far as circumſtances require; that is, the different conditions of the contenders conſidered. The objects are in moſt reſpects very different. From Scotland this country had chiefly in view negative advantages—that the Scots ſhould not be any longer the tools of other powers, to work with to our undoing. From America we have every poſſible advantage to hope for; not only the benefits of commerce, but their power to protect us *. No power in Europe, who knows its intereſt, and has any poſſeſſions in the weſtern world, will chuſe to offend us, whilſt we and America are united; becauſe thoſe poſſeſſions are im-

* " Let it be conſidered, that Scotland is reputed to contain but about one million and a half of people—America almoſt three millions: that Scotland is not ſuppoſed to encreaſe in population—America, by population, and emigrants from other countries, becomes double every twenty-five years:—therefore, that the preſent ſtate of America claims ſomething more than Scotland could claim at the Union, both in reſpect to numbers and future benefit."

mediately

mediately ſubject to the powers of America, directed by us :—what thoſe powers are we now know full well by experience. Every diſtant poſſeſſion of every power in Europe, is a pledge for the good behaviour of its owner to Great Britain.—Is any object we are now contending for, an equivalent to ſuch an extenſive and moſt certain influence ?

" It is therefore much to be wiſhed that ſome ſuch perſons might be pitched upon, and ſent out, rather in a private character, as friends to both countries, than with a public authoritative commiſſion : for if thoſe who are now inveſted in America with power, ſhould *diſtruſt* them, the buſineſs is at an end; and this country and that are left expoſed to all the diſtreſſes, which are only beginning to be felt by both.

" Adminiſtration may think it an eaſy matter to avert any ſtorm which may ariſe from a diſcovery that they have been miſled, miſinformed, and groſsly abuſed, by thoſe on whoſe opinion they had too confidently relied.—This, however, may admit of ſome doubts; and I have too much regard for

many of thoſe who compoſe it, to wiſh the experiment may ever be made.

"Let it be conſidered, that every provocation we give widens the breach; that the Americans have fully ſhewn they are the deſcendants of Engliſhmen; and if they are warm and impetuous like us, like us alſo they are placable; and inſtead of endeavouring to ſubdue them by force to a condition unworthy of our fellow-ſubjects, our countrymen, and our relations, let us open the ſhorteſt road to a ſpeedy, honourable, and effectual reconciliation.

JOHN FOTHERGILL."

(C.)

Copy of a LETTER *from Dr.* FRANKLIN *to* **, *dated Paſſy, Feb.* 12, 1781.

"DEAR SIR,

"I CONDOLE with you moſt ſincerely on the loſs of our dear friend Dr. FOTHERGILL. I hope that ſome one that knew him well, will do juſtice to his memory, by an account of his life and character. He

was

was a great doer of good. How much might have been done, and how much miſchief prevented, if his, your, and my *joint endeavours*, in a CERTAIN MELANCHOLY AFFAIR, had been a little more attended to!!

With great reſpect and eſteem,
I am, &c.

B. FRANKLIN."

A mutual friendſhip had early commenced between Dr. FOTHERGILL and Dr. Franklin, and continued to the death of the former. Dr. Franklin, to whom I am under obligations for many civilities formerly, has ſince augmented them by his late very obliging communications; and the following extract of a letter is ſo applicable to the ſubject of my narrative, that I ſhall inſert his own words, as the moſt honourable and expreſſive teſtimony of his regard for his deceaſed FOTHERGILL.

"Our late excellent friend was always "propoſing ſomething for the good of "mankind. You will find inſtances of

" this kind in one of his letters, which I " encloſe *, the only one I can at preſent " lay my hand on. I have ſome very va- " luable ones in America, if they are not " loſt in the late confuſions. Juſt before I " left England, he, in conjunction with " Mr. ** and myſelf, laboured hard to " prevent the coming war, but our endea- " vours were fruitleſs. This tranſaction " is alluded to in the firſt page. If we " may eſtimate the goodneſs of a man by " his diſpoſition to do good, and his con- " ſtant endeavours and ſucceſs in doing it, " I can hardly conceive that a better man " has ever exiſted †."

Whilſt he thus early diſapproved thoſe political meaſures which have ſince been

* In this letter Dr. FOTHERGILL introduces the ſubject of this negociation; and, among other pertinent reflections, he ſuggeſts the importance of an uniformity of weights and meaſures throughout the continent of America; taking it for granted, as he long foreſaw, her independence. To make theſe more familiar, he recommends that they ſhould be framed of numbers eaſily diviſible, as 4, 8, 16, 32, &c.

† Letter to the Editor, dated Paſſy, March 17, 1783.

generally

generally reprobated as eventually ruinous to the empire, and long afterwards expreſſed his ſentiments to a friend of his in Yorkſhire, previous to the general aſſembly of the county, held on the 30th of December 1779, he uniformly mentioned his ſovereign in the moſt reſpectful language; it was not on men, but on meaſures, that he animadverted. Henry Zouch, of Sandal, in Yorkſhire, a clergyman, and a juſtice of the peace, of diſtinguiſhed reputation, was this intimate friend (and he was worthy of his confidence) to whom he addreſſed the following letter, which I am informed was read in a committee of the above meeting, and met with the moſt pointed approbation; which induces me to think that its inſertion here will be acceptable to the reader.

"THOUGH I am very apprehenſive that the ſubject of this letter will be of very little conſequence, yet I could not eaſily forego an opportunity of mentioning to thyſelf ſome ſentiments that have occurred to me in reſpect to the very important meeting about to be held at York.

"I know my voice is feeble and inſignificant;

ficant; but being a native of the county, and having a great regard for it, on this and many other accounts, I think I ought not to be totally ſilent on ſo important an occaſion, though I know there are ſo many perſons will be preſent, who, in every reſpect but one, I acknowledge to be greatly indeed my ſuperiors;—that one is, a diſintereſted and impartial regard for the good of my native county, and the influence it will hold in the great national buſineſs that will come before you.

"If the motions made for retrenchments in expence are to be the baſis of your deliberations and petitions, I think them altogether unworthy;—all that could be obtained in theſe retrenchments, either by ſavings to the public treaſury, or abridging the power of the crown, are beneath the notice of ſuch an aſſembly, even were you ſure of obtaining all you have in contemplation.—I am morally certain you will obtain nothing; and every unſucceſsful conteſt diſheartens the vanquiſhed, and in proportion adds vigour to the conqueror.

"Have we not ſeen this to be the caſe, in all the petitions and remonſtrances that have been

been preſented? and is it not moſt certain that the majority will be doubly firm againſt you, as their intereſt is ſo much at ſtake?

"I conſider theſe motions as well intended, and they may be followed by others equally œconomical and wiſe; but they will all be rejected, and thoſe who have ſtood forth in their ſupport be diſcouraged.

"There is one neceſſary point, which I think you ought in the firſt place to ſtate moſt clearly—the general decay of the county—and keep cloſe to your own; manufactures declining, commerce languiſhing, value of land decaying, all public improvements at a ſtand, bankruptcies numerous, taxes encreaſing, multitudes diſtreſſed, and, was it not for the late favourable ſeaſons, univerſal poverty and wretchedneſs muſt have taken place. Pray, therefore, that peace may be reſtored between us and America, as the only means of ſaving your county from every ſpecies of calamity;—the war with that country, and its conſequences, having been the general cauſes of theſe diſtreſſes.—I do not mean that theſe expreſſions ſhould be uſed; you will find much better: but if you do not lay the

axe to the root, in vain do you attempt the branches.

" Let not a ſingle reflection on the King or the miniſtry eſcape you—I mean not to appear in your petition. The acrimony that loaded the American petitions, and diſgraced many of our own, have done unſpeakable miſchief; I beg therefore, and earneſtly entreat, that every degree of invective may be ſhunned. Produce your facts, and ſtate them in the cleareſt light; but if you mean well to your country, and wiſh to ſee an example followed in other counties, ſhun every thing offenſive. As there is no great room for flattery, ſo neither give way to the reverſe temper;—if you do, poſterity may load your memories with deſerved reproach.

" Forgive me for thus offering my ſentiments to men much better informed than myſelf; but it is my firm opinion, from the knowledge I have of the temper of thoſe who muſt be the judges of your petitions, that ſo ſure as you deviate from a line of language, temperate yet firm, ſo ſure will you ſhut a door more cloſely againſt all that you can urge;—and what muſt be the conſequence?

ſequence? A perſeverance in the ſame meaſures, to do deſpite to thoſe who condemned them. Once more, therefore, let me entreat that every thing manifeſtly offenſive in language may be ſtudiouſly avoided; that no bagatelles may be aſked for, but the removal of the great cauſe of expence—the war with America: the leſſer arrangements of œconomy may then be ſolicited, and theſe only take place at the deceaſe of the preſent occupants.

" Once more excuſe me, if I am taking a liberty unbecoming me;—the honour of our county, the good of the country in general, are at ſtake. If you aſk for what is evidently great and right, your example will be followed by all; if you aſk for things which you know beforehand will be refuſed, let your numbers be ever ſo great, you may poſſibly meet with many counter-petitions, and an attempt for general reformation be ſtifled in its infancy.

" J. FOTHERGILL."

London, 8th of the 10th mo. 1779.

With a natural attachment to his native country, ſtrengthened by every tie of inte-

reſt and connection, and confirmed by his writings and patriotic exertions, yet, in the philanthropy of his breaſt, his affections expanded beyond the confines of empire. The Chriſtian Patriot, whilſt he directs his views to one univerſal Parent, and contemplates his unlimited goodneſs, feels his regard extended to all his creatures; and in the individual enjoyment of bleſſings, he delights in their univerſality and reciprocity.—Man was formed to be happy; and would be ſo, were the policy of nations directed to the communication of mutual benefits. In a ſmall community it is ever found, that the happineſs of individuals will be in proportion to the ſum of happineſs of the whole; and national felicity will be proportioned by a ſimilar ſcale. No man has the power of encreaſing his own happineſs, beyond the neceſſary and common enjoyments of life, by any other medium, than by that of benefiting his fellow-creatures; and the true policy of an individual might become the true policy of nations, were national policy ſubſervient to reaſon and religion.

In this view, no language can be more impolitic and irrational, than that which

inculcates

inculcates the exiſtence of the *natural* enmity of nations. We know that the wolf, impelled by hunger, becomes the *natural* enemy of weaker animals; but man, whoſe paſſions ought to be humanized in the ſchool of Him who invariably recommended *Peace on earth*, can never become the *natural* foe of man. The different habits of nations, and the variety in their productions, naturally point him out as the friend of his own ſpecies; and were religion of no avail, intereſt, one might imagine, would urge him to the communication of mutual benefits.

If we ſelect an example, where habit has rendered the language of *natural enemy* familiar to national prejudice, even France might be united to us by intereſt and friendſhip, were we to encourage a mutual intercourſe in trade, inſtead of interdicting it by the ſevereſt reſtraints. Whilſt ſhe takes off our Woollens, our Hard-ware, and other heavy articles of manufacture, we might receive in exchange her Laces, her Wines, and other articles, which the gaiety of the people, or the conſtitution of the ſoil, ſeem better adapted to produce. Mutual intereſt

being

being thus created by nature, and eſtabliſhed by the communication of mutual advantages, we ſhould become *natural friends*; at leaſt, that enmity, to which ſo many thouſands have been ſacrificed, would no longer exiſt.—Thus I have heard Dr. FOTHERGILL reaſon; and may his ſpirit deſcend upon the rulers of the earth!

The manufacture of our fine Laces, which is carried on with ſuch ſedulous induſtry in ſome parts of England, and particularly in Buckinghamſhire, ſupports indeed many poor families; but the employment, inſtead of being ultimately beneficial, may really prove injurious, neither ſuiting the conſtitution of this country, nor the genius of the people: thoſe engaged in it, as well as in the manufactory of gauzes, &c. as I am informed, already appear like another race of people; that vigour and ſtrength which diſtinguiſh'd the labouring poor of this kingdom from thoſe of every other, is ſunk down into pallid debility. It is true, that women and children are chiefly occupied in theſe ſedentary employments; but it is from theſe enervated females that the next generation is to ſpring!

Even

Even in the contracted ſpirit of national policy, if we have any rivals or *natural enemies*, it cannot be true policy in us to rob them of thoſe employments that debilitate the labourer, and conſequently his offspring; but rather to encourage among them ſuch ſedentary manufactories, whilſt in return they exchange our wrought iron, and other products of athletic induſtry, which at the ſame time conduce to preſerve that health and vigour, upon which perſonal happineſs and national ſtrength ſo much depend.

When a man hath diſtinguiſhed himſelf by extraordinary efforts of genius, and gained the ſummit of popular fame, we naturally wiſh to be acquainted, not only with the moſt intereſting circumſtances of his life and character, but even thoſe which may be trifling in themſelves, and which by no means would bear to be recorded, did they refer to perſons of little fame; yet, when connected with a character that hath excited our admiration, or with works that we have contemplated with delight, they derive a kind of adventitious conſequence from their relation, and are ſought after with more

avidity than greater matters of leſſer men*. This ſentiment, doubtleſs, induced the writer† of "An Affectionate Tribute" to give the ſubſequent relation of Dr. FOTHERGILL's dreſs, addreſs, and manner of living; which I ſhall literally tranſcribe, for the information of ſuch as never enjoyed his acquaintance.

"The perſon of Dr. FOTHERGILL was of a delicate, rather of an extenuated make; his features were all character; his eye had a peculiar brilliancy of expreſſion, yet it was not eaſy ſo to mark the leading trait, as to diſengage it from the united whole. He was remarkably active and alert, and, with a few exceptions, enjoyed a general good ſtate of health.—He had a peculiarity of addreſs and manner, reſulting from perſon, education, and principle; but it was ſo perfectly accompanied by the moſt engaging attentions, that he was the genuine polite man, above all forms of breeding.—I knew him well, and never knew a man who left ſuch pleaſing impreſſions on the minds of his patients.

* Monthly Review, vol. lxv. p. 443.

† The late Dr. William Hird.

"His

"His dreſs was remarkably neat, plain, and decent, peculiarly becoming himſelf; a perfect tranſcript of the order, and I may add, the neatneſs of his mind.—He thought it unworthy a man of ſenſe, and inconſiſtent with his character, to ſuffer himſelf to be led by the whim of faſhion, and become the ſlave of its caprices.—But this impreſſion upon his underſtanding was much ſtrengthened by his firm attachment to his principles as a Quaker, which lead to that decent plainneſs and modeſty in dreſs, which may be preſumed to be one, at leaſt, amongſt the external evidences of a ſpirit elevated in its views above all tranſient and ſublunary things.

"At his meals he was remarkably temperate; in the opinion of ſome, rather too abſtemious, eating ſparingly, but with a good reliſh, and rarely exceeding two glaſſes of wine at dinner or ſupper: yet, by this uniform and ſteady temperance, he preſerved his mind vigorous and active, and his conſtitution equal to all his engagements *."

Religion, when it works upon the heart, and ſubjects the paſſions to the exerciſe of beneficence, generates all thoſe attractive

* Page 27, 28.

graces, which can be acquired by no other medium. Rules of exterior imitation may be delineated with the elegant pencil of a Cheſterfield; but the purity of the heart is the genuine ſource of true politeneſs: for that religion, which breathes *good-will unto man*, whilſt it refines the underſtanding, and ſoftens the affections, begets that complacency from which neceſſarily reſult thoſe amities, and that unaffected politeneſs, which alone ſhould form the gentleman; ſuch as the Scholar ſhould cultivate, and the Chriſtian recommend; and theſe rendered a FOTHERGILL beloved, reſpected, and illuſtrious.

But the time was approaching, when neither temperance nor virtue could exempt our valuable aſſociate from the final lot of humanity. For a ſeries of years, indeed for the moſt part of his life, he had enjoyed good health, and time ſeemed ſlowly to diminiſh the vigour of his body, or weaken the exertion of his mind; but it was perceptible to thoſe who were much with him, and what he often remarked himſelf, that fatigue became leſs ſupportable, and recruit of ſtrength, in his annual retreats into Cheſhire, was of late years

more

more ſlowly acquired. There are many cauſes, beſides thoſe reſulting from advancing age, which diminiſh the conſtitutional vigour and vivacity of a feeling mind; his was ſenſibly awake to all the endearments of brotherly affinity: he had loſt his youngeſt brother Joſeph, and afterwards his brother Samuel, both of Warrington; the latter my paternal Guardian, by whom I was early introduced to the protection of the phyſician: it was theſe relatives, and others in the vicinity, that firſt induced him to retreat to Lea-hall in Cheſhire, which is but a few miles diſtant from Warrington. Theſe ſucceſſive loſſes ſenſibly affected his mind, and retarded that conſtitutional benefit, which he had formerly experienced. From this time many of his letters from the country teſtify the depth of his grief, and the irreparable chaſm of enjoyment which he had thereby ſuſtained:

Quis deſiderio ſit pudor, aut modus
Tam chari capitis! —— HOR.

In 1772, ſome months after the deceaſe of his brother Samuel, "I have been

" obliged," he remarks from Lea-hall, " to write many letters, which I am at " preſent very unfit for, or any thing elſe: " but I will not ſpend all in unavailing " complaints. I meet with many things " to put me in mind how much I have loſt; " and I feel ſuch a void in my enjoyments " of this life, as reduces my wiſhes to a " great mediocrity indeed *."

In a ſucceeding year he acquaints me, " that he came down to Lea-hall much " oppreſſed: and now I am here," he adds, " I have enough to do to command my- " ſelf, when I recollect my brother, whoſe " countenance, counſel, and ſympathy re- " lieved every anxiety, gave taſte to every " enjoyment; but I will try to baniſh " every thing, but a wiſh to follow him " through the remains of this life, with " ſubmiſſion to every difficulty, and grati- " tude for many many bleſſings †."

I have the rather indulged theſe digreſſions, as they recal to mind the virtues of my deceaſed guardian, the want of whoſe coun-

* Letter to the Editor, anno 1772.

† Ibid, anno 1774.

ſel, if Dr. FOTHERGILL, with a comprehenſive underſtanding rarely to be equalled, could ſo deeply lament, what muſt the public have ſuſtained when this god-like man was no more! for, if this ſacred appellation may be applied to him who devotes his life to render mankind wiſer and happier, I have ample ſanction for adopting it on the preſent occaſion; and more particularly as he was ſo nearly connected with the immediate ſubject of my narration *: but

* This pious man, a little before his death, addreſſed the following expreſſions to ſome of his relations, when they took leave of him, previous to their ſetting out for the Yearly Meeting in London, anno 1772.

"Our health is no more at our command, than "length of days;—mine ſeems drawing faſt towards a "concluſion, I think: but I am content with every "allotment of Providence, for they are all in wiſ-"dom—unerring wiſdom. There is *One Thing* which, "as an arm underneath, bears up and ſupports; and "though the rolling tempeſtuous billows ſurround, yet "my head is kept above them, and my feet are firmly "eſtabliſhed.—Oh! ſeek it—preſs after it—lay faſt "hold of it.

"Though painful my nights and weariſome my "days, yet I am preſerved in patience and reſigna-"tion.—Death has no terrors, nor will the grave have

but the progreſs of ſolicitude upon the mind, which is not the reſult of remorſe, is always ſlow, and rarely fatal; and the diſeaſe under which Dr. FOTHERGILL finally

"any victory.—My ſoul triumphs over death, hell,
"and the grave.

"Huſbands and wives, parents and children, health
"and riches, muſt all go;—diſappointment is another
"name for them.

"I ſhould have been thankful, had I been able to
"have got to the enſuing Yearly Meeting in London,
"which you are now going to attend, where I have
"been ſo often refreſhed with my brethren; but it is
"otherwiſe allotted.—The Lord knows beſt what is beſt
"for us;—I am content, and reſigned to his will.

"I feel a foretaſte of the joy which is to come; and
"who would wiſh to change ſuch a ſtate of mind?——
"I ſhould be glad if an eaſy channel could be found,
"to inform the Yearly Meeting, that as I have lived,
"ſo I ſhall cloſe, with the moſt unſhaken aſſurance,
"that we have not followed cunningly-deviſed fables,
"but the pure, living, eternal ſubſtance.

"Let the aged be ſtrong, let the middle-aged be
"animated, and the youth encouraged; for the Lord
"is with Sion, the Lord will bleſs Sion!

"If I be now removed out of his church militant,
"where I have endeavoured in ſome meaſure to fill up
"my duty, I have an *evidence* that I ſhall gain an ad-
"mittance into his glorious church triumphant, far
"above the heavens.

"My dear love to all them that love the Lord
"Jeſus."

ſuffered,

ſuffered, was certainly independent of this ſource. It was about the middle of November 1778, that, on waking out of a ſhort ſleep, a forcible inclination to make water enſued, but without the power. For a day or two preceding, ſome heat, and an unuſual difficulty had attended: at length a total ſuppreſſion came on, that required manual aſſiſtance for upwards of two weeks, which was ſometimes accompanied with excruciating pain, though no leſs than two hundred drops of Thebaic tincture had been given in the ſpace of a few hours, without much relief. In the height of his diſtreſs I viſited him, and found him calm and recollected: he deſcribed, with wonderful ſerenity of mind, his acute miſery, expreſſing a pious and Chriſtian reſignation; and adding, "that if he had left any thing un-"done which he wiſhed to have done, it "was perfecting the plan of Ackworth "School; and likewiſe, the complete ar-"rangement of the rules of our religious "Society." The firſt, I have already intimated, was an undertaking worthy of a great and illuſtrious ſage; and the latter was equally arduous, though the difficulty could

could be known only to the Society intereſted in it: and he lived to accompliſh his ardent wiſhes.

In the commencement of December of the ſame year, he was able to ſee his friends; and ſoon afterwards the importunities of the ſick forced him again into his former arduous and active life, and for the ſpace of two years he enjoyed his uſual degree of health, at leaſt he rarely complained, and he certainly was equally occupied in the duties of his profeſſion, and in numerous exertions for the benefit of individuals, and of the community; for he never ſeemed ſo happy, as when he was rendering others ſo.

It was after this illneſs that he viſited Ackworth School, and endeavoured to perfect his plan, and perpetuate its advantages to poſterity. He retired as uſual, the latter end of the year, to Lea-hall, and once returned by Buxton, where he projected thoſe improvements in that celebrated reſort of invalids, already hinted at, and which, as I am informed, are now carrying into execution.

He likewiſe viſited Knareſborough, in Yorkſhire, after many years abſence, "to

"pay,"

"pay," as he, with filial piety, relates, "the grateful tribute of a tear at the ſide "of an honoured parent's grave.—To ſee "that his ſepulchre was not laid waſte to "the beaſts of the field, but ſecured from "the ravages of neglect, was to us (himſelf "and ſiſter) a pleaſing duty. Firmly per-"ſuaded that we had not the leaſt cauſe to "mourn on his account, and nothing left "more becoming us, than to call to mind "his precepts, and his example, we left the "ſolitary ſpot, with hearts full of reverent "thankfulneſs, that ſuch was our father, "and that we were ſo far favoured, as to be "able to remember him with gratitude and "affection *."

But the firmeſt conſtitution, like the moſt perfect elaſtic, may be extended beyond the power of reſtoration. It was on the 12th day of December 1780 that he was again ſeized with a ſuppreſſion of urine, which no art could remove. I ſaw him in a ſtate of acute pain, which ſeemed almoſt inſupportable; he had ſtrength enough to raiſe himſelf up in bed, but with ſuch extreme thirſt, that while he leaned on his right arm, he held in the left hand a glaſs

* Letter to the Editor.

of

of wine and water, to moderate the inſatiable thirſt, of which fluid he was obliged to ſip after every ſentence, in order to enable him to ſpeak: he was then as ſerene as in perfect health; he endeavoured, indeed, to aſſume a degree of chearfulneſs, which was natural to him when well, and deſcribed his complaints, and their probable fatal termination, with a pious hope, "that he had "not lived in vain, but in degree to an- "ſwer the end of his creation, by ſacri- "ficing intereſted conſiderations, and his "own eaſe, to the good of his fellow crea- "tures." Some individuals might have envied the univerſal eſteem he acquired by his virtues, his manners, and his ſkill in healing; and all may envy that comfort of mind which ſuſtained him to his final diſſolution, which was on the 26th day of December 1780.

A man ſo long, and ſo reſpectfully known, dying in the ſummit of celebrity, and ſurrounded with the careſſes of a numerous acquaintance, muſt be deeply and univerſally regretted.

Acts of friendſhip to the deceaſed are animated, becauſe they are diſintereſted, and virtuous minds are the moſt ardently diſ-

poſed

poſed to fulfil them: but to prevent the inconveniencies that were feared, and might reſult, from the crowd that purpoſed to aſſemble, to pay the laſt offices of eſteem to his memory, had he been interred in London, it was judged adviſeable to carry his remains into the country; which, on the 5th of January 1781, were depoſited in the burial-ground of Winchmore-hill, about twelve miles from town: nevertheleſs, upwards of ſeventy coaches and chaiſes, filled with friends, attended upon this melancholy occaſion. "The tender remembrance of friendſhip yet lives in every breaſt; we mourn without form; we ſee and feel the void his fall has left, and which only time can mitigate, and a reſignation to the diſpenſations of that Power, which orders all things with unerring wiſdom and goodneſs, beyond our comprehenſion *."

——*Quis talia fando,*
Temperet à lachrymis?—— VIRG.

* Dr. FOTHERGILL's Life of Dr. Ruſſell.

THE

THE following letter, though addreſſed to the ſiſter of Dr. FOTHERGILL, has ſuch an immediate reference to the preſent ſubject of biography, that I have preſumed to inſert it here.—This affectionate tribute of the living phyſician, after an intimacy commencing in youth, and continued with unabated friendſhip to the lateſt period of Dr. FOTHERGILL's life, affords the moſt honourable teſtimony of the amiable character of the one, and of the tender and ſympathetic feelings of the other; and muſt convey ſingular pleaſure to every reader, who hath enjoyed that genuine friendſhip, which we truſt doth not terminate with the grave.

"Dear Mrs. FOTHERGILL,

"I DO not fear to encreaſe your grief by this early addreſs, nor to recall to your memory the very afflicting diſpenſation which you have lately experienced, as I am well convinced it has never once been abſent

ſent from your mind ſince it happened; but I can no longer defer to mingle my tears with yours, and moſt ſincerely to condole with you on the ſignal loſs which you have ſuſtained. Your loſs, it muſt be confeſſed, is incomparably the greateſt; but you are by no means the only ſufferer—all his friends, his acquaintances, the publick—all partake of it, and ſhare it with you.

" As to myſelf, I feel it deeply. Forty-ſeven years have now run their courſe ſince I had firſt the happineſs of his acquaintance; during which long tract of time we have maintained an uninterrupted warm mutual and diſintereſted friendſhip. Often have I been benefited by his counſel and advice; always happy and improved by his converſation and correſpondence. The regard and kindneſs with which he diſtinguiſhed me, has been ever my pleaſure and my boaſt. May the Almighty ſanctify this ſevere affliction to you! and may we all profit by ſo eminent an example! Great as your grief muſt be, you have every conſolation that can alleviate a misfortune of this kind. No one lived a more innocent and a more uſeful life. No one was ever more

beloved

beloved and reſpected while living; none have died more univerſally regretted. I loved and eſteemed him highly alive; I ſhall ever reſpect his memory. Submiſſion to the will of Heaven, we all know, is ever our duty under every afflicting diſpenſation. The reaſon is very plain; of this our judgment is eaſily convinced: but the practice is not quite ſo eaſy. We cannot forget the pleaſure we enjoyed in the poſſeſſion of ſuch bleſſings; we look back with regret, and are deeply ſenſible of the preſent void. Natural affection will have its courſe, and it requires time to ſoothe the paſſions. Of all the taxes on humanity, this is the greateſt.—Both on your own account, and from the near relation in which you ſtand to the reſpected deceaſed, I muſt ever intereſt myſelf cordially in your welfare. I am far from expecting, nay, I do not even wiſh, you to take any notice of this letter ſoon. The preſent ſtate of your mind cannot admit of it: but hereafter, when time has mellowed your grief, and blunted the edge of your preſent poignant affliction, I will hope to hear, either from yourſelf, or by the hands of ſome of your friends, of your

ſtate

ſtate of health and ſituation. I hope I need not ſay, that if in any reſpect I can be made uſeful to you, it will afford me a ſenſible pleaſure. I commit you to the conſolation and guidance of the Almighty; and remain, with ſincere regard and eſteem,

" Dear Mrs. FOTHERGILL's

" Faithful and reſpectful friend,

" W. CUMING."

" *Dorcheſter, Jan.* 10, 1781."

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